

Trout Fishing

2007 REGULATIONS

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

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	EXCEPTIONS
January 1 — March 18	7 inches	4	1) Waters with in-season stocking closures are closed to fishing 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on days listed for stocking (see listing below). 2) Special regulation areas (wild trout streams, year round and seasonal trout conservation areas, trophy and holdover trout lakes). 3) Lake Hopatcong, Prospertown Lake, Farrington Lake, Lake Shenandoah—fishing is permitted during the period March 19 — April 7 at 8 a.m. All trout caught during this period must immediately be released. 4) Greenwood Lake and Delaware River—see separate regulations for boundary waters, p. 22.
March 19 — April 7 a 8 a.m.	Fishing prohibited on all waters listed for trout stocking; all other waters—catch and release only (See exceptions at right)		
April 7 at 8 a.m. — May 31	7 inches	6	
June 1 — Dec. 31	7 inches	4	

Lake Trout Regulations

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	EXCEPTIONS
Jan. 1 — Dec. 31	15 inches	2	Trophy Trout Lakes (see page 19)—Round Valley Reservoir, Merrill Creek Reservoir

Trout Stocked Waters

General trout regulations apply; see above. Consult pages 14 and 15 for a complete list of trout stocked waters that can be fished beginning 8 a.m. April 7 including the days the waters are stocked. See below for a list of waters closed to fishing (5 a.m. to 5 p.m.) on dates listed for stocking.

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

MONDAYS April 9, 16, 23, 30 May 7, 14, 21	Manasquan River — Rt. 9 bridge downstream to Bennetts bridge, Manasquan WMA Metedeconk River, N/Br. — Aldrich Rd. bridge to Ridge Ave. Metedeconk River, S/Br. — Bennetts Mill dam to twin wooden foot bridge, opposite Lake Park Blvd. on South Lake Drive, Lakewood Rockaway River — Longwood Lake dam (Jefferson Twp.) to Jersey City Reservoir in Boonton Toms River — Rt. 528, Holmansville, to confluence with Maple Root Branch, and Rt. 70 bridge to Rt. 571 bridge (Exception: the section regulated as a Year-round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.) Wallkill River — Lake Mohawk dam to Rt. 23, Hamburg
TUESDAYS April 10, 17, 24 May 1, 8, 15, 22	Pohatcong Creek — Rt. 31 to Delaware River Raritan River, S/Br — Budd Lake dam to junction with N/Br. Raritan River (Exception: the section regulated as a Year-Round Trout Conservation Areas; see separate regulation.)
WEDNESDAYS April 11, 18, 25 May 2, 9, 16, 23	Raritan River, N/Br. — Peapack Rd. bridge in Far Hills to junction with S/Br. Raritan River
THURSDAYS April 12, 19, 26 May 3, 10, 17, 24	Black River — Rt. 206, Chester to the posted Black River Fish & Game Club property at the lower end of Hacklebarney State Park Paulinskil River, and E/Br. and W/Br. — Limecrest RR spur bridge on E/Br., Sparta Twp., and Warbasse Jct. Rd. (Rt. 663) on W./Br., Lafayette Twp., to Columbia Lake (Exception: The section of the E/Br. regulated as a Year Round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.) Ramapo River — State line to Pompton Lake (excluding Potash Lake)
FRIDAYS April 13, 20, 27 May 4, 11, 18, 25	Big Flat Brook — 100 ft. above Steam Mill bridge on Crigger Rd. in Stokes State Forest to Delaware River Musconetcong River — Lake Hopatcong dam to Delaware River including all mainstream impoundments except for Lake Musconetcong (See Seasonal Trout Conservation Area regulations) Pequest River — source downstream to Delaware River (See Seasonal Trout Conservation Area regulations for Pequest) Wanaque River — Greenwood Lake dam to junction with Pequannock River, excluding Wanaque Reservoir, Monksville Reservoir

Wild Trout Streams

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS
April 7 at 8 a.m. — Sept. 15	7 inches (see #3 at right)	2	1) Only artificial lures may be used. 2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3) The minimum size for brown trout in Van Campens Brook and Pequannock River is 12 inches.
Jan. 1 — April 7 at 8 a.m. and Sept. 16 — Dec. 31	Catch and Release Only		
Bear Creek (Southtown) Bear Swamp Brook (Mahwah) Black Brook (Clinton WMA) Burnett Brook (Ralston) Cold Brook (Oldwick) Dark Moon Brook (also known as Bear Brook) (Johnsonburg) Dunfield Creek (Del. Water Gap) Flanders Brook (Flanders) Hance's Brook (Penwell) Hickory Run (Califon) India Brook (source to Mountain Side Ave., Mendham)	Indian Grove Brook (Bernardsville) Jackson Brook (source to Hedden Park Lake, Mine Hill Twp.) Ledgewood Brook (Ledgewood) Little York Brook (Little York) Lomerson Brook (also known as Herzog Brook) (Pottersville) Merrill Creek (Stewartsville) Mill Brook (Montague) N/Br. Rockaway Creek (Mountainville) Parker Brook (Stokes S.F.) Passaic River (source to Rt. 202, Bernardsville)	Pequannock River (Oak Ridge Rd. bridge in Newark Watershed, downstream to railroad bridge immediately upstream of Charlottesville Res.) Rhineharts Brook (Hacklebarney S.P.) Rocky Run (Clinton Twp.) Saddle River (state line to Lake St., Upper Saddle River) Stephensburg Creek (Stephensburg) Stony Brook (Stokes S.F.)	Stony Brook (Washington Twp., Morris Co.) Tetertown Brook (Tetertown) Trout Brook (Hacklebarney S.P.) Turkey Brook (Mt. Olive) Van Campens Brook (Del. Water Gap; see Dunfield Ck.) West Brook (source downstream to Windbeam Club property) Whippany River (source to Tingley Rd., Mendham Twp.) Willoughby Brook (also known as Buffalo Hollow Brook) (Clinton Twp.)

Year Round Trout Conservation Areas (see page 16)

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS (in effect year round)
Jan. 1—March 18	15 inches	1	1) Only artificial lures may be used. 2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3) Fishing is permitted during the in-season closures which apply to the river. All trout caught during these periods must be released immediately.
March 19 — April 7 at 8 a.m.	Catch and Release Only		
April 7 at 8 a.m. — Dec. 31	15 inches	1 (see #3 at right)	

Paulinskill River, E/Br. (Sussex County)—from the Limecrest railroad spur bridge downstream to its confluence with the W/Br. Paulinskill at Warbasse Jct. (approx. 2.25 miles)

Raritan River, S/Br. (Hunterdon County)—the stretch of water known as the Ken Lockwood Gorge, a distance of approximately 2.5 miles

Raritan River, S/Br. (Morris County)—a section of river, known locally as the Claremont Stretch, extending from the downstream end of the posted Anglers Anonymous property downstream to its junction with Electric Brook (approx. 1.1 miles)

Toms River (Ocean County)—the downstream end of Riverwood Pk. in Dover Twp., defined by markers, downstream to the Rt. 571 bridge (approx. 1 mile)

Seasonal Trout Conservation Areas (see page 16)

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS
Jan. 1—March 18	15 inches	1	1) Only artificial lures may be used. 2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3) Pequest and Musconetcong Rivers—fishing is not permitted during the first six in-season stocking closure dates. (See Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring Stocking Dates, p. 18). Fishing is permitted during the last in-season stocking closure date (May 25), but all trout caught between 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. must immediately be released.
March 19 — April 6	Catch and Release Only		
April 7 (12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m.)	Fishing Prohibited		
April 7 at 8 a.m. — May 20 Gear restrictions do not apply	7 inches	6	
May 21 — Dec. 31	15 inches	1	

Pequannock River (Morris/Passaic counties) — Rt. 23 bridge at Smoke Rise downstream to the Rt. 23 bridge at Smith Mills (approx. 1.2 miles)

Pequest River (Warren County) — from the Conrail Railroad bridge located upstream of the Pequest Trout Hatchery access road downstream to Rt. 625 (Pequest Furnace Rd.) bridge, a distance of approx. 1.6 miles

Musconetcong River (Hunterdon/Warren counties) — Penwell Road bridge downstream to the Point Mtn. Road bridge, a distance of approx. 1.2 miles

Fly Fishing Areas

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS
Jan. 1—March 18	7 inches	4	1) Only artificial flies are allowed, which are expressly limited to dry flies, wet flies, bucktails, nymphs and streamers. Expressly prohibited are metal, plastic, or wooden lures, plugs, spinners, and flies with spinners attached or any multiple-hooked device. Spinning reels or any type of angling whereby a fly is cast directly from the reel are expressly prohibited. 2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3) After opening day and through May, fishing is prohibited from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on dates listed for stocking. (See Trout Water Closed to Fishing on Spring Stocking Dates, page 18.)
March 19 — April 7 at 8 a.m.	Fishing Prohibited		
April 7 at 8 a.m.— April 16 at 5 a.m. Gear restrictions do not apply except on Blewett Tract	7 inches	6	
April 16 at 5 a.m.—May 31	7 inches	6	
June 1—Dec. 31	7 inches	4	

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

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

Trophy Trout Lakes

LOCATIONS	SPECIES	SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
Merrill Creek Reservoir	brown & rainbow trout	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	15 inches	2
	lake trout	Jan. 1—Sept. 15 & Dec. 1—Dec. 31	15 inches	2
Round Valley Reservoir	brown & rainbow trout	Jan. 1 — Dec. 31	15 inches	2
	lake trout	Jan. 1 — Sept. 15 & Dec. 1 — Dec. 31	20 inches	1

Holdover Trout Lakes

LOCATIONS	SPECIES	SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
Clinton Reservoir Lake Aeroflex Lake Wawayanda Shepherd Lake Swartswood Lake White Lake (Warren Co.)	brook, brown, rainbow trout, and hybrids (see separate regulations for lake trout)	Jan. 1— March 18	7 inches	2
		March 19 — April 7 at 8 a.m.	Catch and Release Only	
		April 7 at 8 a.m. — May 31	7 inches	4
		June 1— Dec. 31	7 inches	2
	landlocked Atlantic salmon	Jan. 1— Dec. 31	12 inches	2

Boundary Waters (see page 22)

LOCATIONS	SPECIES	SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
Delaware River	all trout species	April 14 – Sept. 30 (trout caught at other times must be released immediately)	no min. size	5
Greenwood Lake	all trout species	Jan. 1— Dec. 31	no min. size	3