New Jersey Freshwater Fishing Digest
January 2019

Season Dates, Size & Creel Limits
page 26

A Summary of Regulations and Freshwater Fisheries Management Information
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License Information
& Fees 2019
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
   (Buddy License* $11.75)
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 .......................................................... $34
   (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

Have You Fished These Popular Waterbodies?

34 Kickin’ Bass from a Kayak

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

2019 Trout Stocking Schedule
Scan this QR code with your mobile device to view New Jersey’s 2019 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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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

Fish and Wildlife 2019 Calendar of Events

- Districts
  - Fisheries Forums, north, January 19; south, February 23; page 9
  - Trout Meeting, March 2; page 9
  - Pequest Open House and Flea Market, To be announced; page 14
  - Opening Day of Trout Season, April 6; page 18

- Events
  - FREE Fishing Days, June 8, Oct. 19; page 14
  - Wild Outdoor Expo, Sept. 7–8; page 42
  - Fall trout stocking, begins the week of Oct. 7
  - Winter Trout Stocking November 25 and 26

Law Enforcement and Regulation Information

- Northern Region — (908) 735-8240
  (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren counties)

- Central Region — (609) 259-2120
  (Burlington, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean counties)

- Southern Region — (856) 629-0555
  (Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem counties)

- Marine Region — (609) 748-2050
  (coastal and bay areas)

- To report violations anonymously call Operation Game Thief — (855) OGT-TIPS

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Where to Write Us
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Fish and Wildlife
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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.
New For 2019!

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A true workhorse, the Shimano SLX Casting Reel utilizes key Shimano technologies to provide competitive anglers with a dependable, performance-oriented reel that won’t break the bank. Providing a smaller profile without sacrificing line capacity, the Shimano SLX Casting Reel is over 20% more compact than the Shimano Caenon, while maintaining the same line capacity.

With the updated Sedona Spinning Reels, Shimano has significantly improved upon the old Sedona models. Highly durable cold-forged Hagane® gear teams with a higher gear ratio to deliver the smoothness you want cast after cast. Increased drag on all models except the 1000, offers incredible stopping power. Lightweight G-Free Body and upgraded Magnumlite® rotor improve weight balance and reduce fatigue, so you can spend all day on the water in comfort.

CURADO DC
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While reading this year’s Digest you may notice that there are no changes to fishing regulations—except for the muskie size limit increase to 44 inches on Greenwood Lake that takes effect April 1, 2019. Major changes adopted last year were designed to protect our native brook trout and to maximize the recreational opportunity for streams containing reproducing browns and rainbows. I encourage you to test your skills by taking the opportunity to fish for New Jersey’s wild trout. I think you will enjoy the challenge.

Are you among the anglers who fish some of the notable waters of south, central or north Jersey? Take a look at Popular Waterbodies (page 6) for information to help you enjoy our diverse fishery with excellent places to target gamefish such as largemouth and small-mouth bass, various panfish and huge carp.

Helpful hints for fishing from a kayak (page 34, Kickin’ Bass from a Kayak!) features a terrific way to economically explore our smaller waterbodies. Although the author concentrates on fishing for bass in lakes and ponds, kayaks and canoes are also excellent ways to explore and fish some of our rivers and streams that meander through public land. On these waters, a bit more coordination with friends is required by leaving vehicles at both the access and exit locations. If your experience is like mine, you will be amazed at how many stocked trout actually do stray from their stocking site, remaining available to those willing to paddle to find them.

Fisheries management projects of interest to anglers around the state are featured in Freshwater Fisheries Project Highlights, page 10, where you can follow our staff’s management efforts, including electro-fishing survey results that confirm the abundance of fish in New Jersey waterbodies. The radio telemetry study of trout stocked in the Big Flat Brook solved the mystery of disappearing trout, revealing that anglers have significant competition from both mammalian and avian predators!

It is also exciting to read that the efforts of our agency and partners to remove dams is having a positive effect on fish passage. American shad and freshwater eels are moving upstream in the Millstone, Raritan and Musconetcong rivers and have staged at the Paulins Kill just below the Columbia Lake Dam, as if ready for the dam to come down. In many of these cases, the rivers have not been accessible to migrating fish since the colonial days when grist mills and associated dams dotted the landscape. The DEP’s Office of Natural Resource Restoration has been exceedingly supportive of projects that restore migratory fish passage. Natural Resource Restoration funding from settlements paid by polluters for harming natural resources has been, and will continue to be, critical to the success of these efforts.

I have not fished for shad in over twenty years, letting work and family obligations keep me away. But seeing the pods of shad on the Paulins Kill has rekindled my memory of hooking these fierce fighting fish. A winter’s project is to repaint and sharpen my old shad darts in preparation for the spring. See you on the water!

Larry Herrighty is the Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

An early Autumn view of Perrineville Lake in Millstone New Jersey.
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Have You Fished These Popular Waterbodies?

Biologist Eric Boethm holds two Lunker Bass from Assunpink Lake weighing 6.3 lbs. and 5.6 lbs. The bass were collected on April 24, 2018.
Assunpink Lake

Assunpink Lake is a 225-acre impoundment located within the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area, Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth County. Assunpink Lake is one of five waterbodies managed under the Lunker Bass Program and one of the most utilized wildlife management areas in the state. In addition, the lake has a good black crappie population and is annually stocked with channel catfish.

The bass population was impacted by largemouth bass virus in the past but has shown consistent improvement since 2013 as revealed by Fish and Wildlife’s April 2018 survey. The catch rate for bass was 76 bass/hour based on 1.43 hours of electrofishing. Eighty-four percent of bass were greater than 12 inches, 27 percent were greater than 15 inches and 2 percent were greater than 20 inches long. These bass lengths were longer than when the waterbody was surveyed in September 2017.

Four bass weighing more than 5 pounds were collected during the survey. Five pounds is socially accepted as a “Lunker” bass—a benchmark that Fish and Wildlife has tracked through tournament reports since the Lunker Bass Program’s inception in the mid-1990s. The largest bass measured 20.6 inches and weighed 6.31 pounds.

The introduction of two invasive aquatic plant species, Hydrilla and water chestnut, has delayed bass recovery from the virus and has complicated fishery management activities. Supplemental largemouth bass were stocked in 2014 and 2016 to enhance the population. Biologists are evaluating how the population responds to stocking through annual electrofishing surveys.

Electrofishing surveys are conducted during the early spring and fall when bass are relating to shallow vegetation. These seasons are great for anglers to catch bass with vibrating jigs and lipless crankbaits cast into the shallows.

Greenwood Lake

Greenwood Lake, shared by New Jersey and New York, covers 1,920 acres. It offers a diversity of fishing opportunities for popular gamefish, from annually stocked walleye, muskellunge and channel catfish to largemouth and smallmouth bass.

Recent efforts to assess the muskie population in Greenwood revealed that it is one of—if not the best—muskie lake in the state, with a total of 38 captured. Seventy-nine percent were larger than 36 inches and 55 percent were larger than 40 inches! The size and number of muskies caught were a catalyst to increase the minimum size limit to 44 inches (effective April 1, 2019) and to make Greenwood Lake one of the new Trophy Muskie Waters.

Walleye are frequently encountered by anglers as well. Sampling in 2017 revealed a highly abundant population of walleye during the six hours of electrofishing conducted by both New York DEC and New Jersey DFW. Nearly half of the walleye captured exceeded 20 inches. Largemouth and smallmouth bass are popular gamefish as well. Steps are being taken to create more balance to the fishery and increase the abundance of largemouth bass in the lake. New Jersey DFW has stocked over 60,000 2-inch fingerling largemouth between 2012 and 2017.

With the abundance of aquatic vegetation, boat docks and rock piles, finding a place to fish is never a problem. Summer largemouth bass fishing is excellent on Greenwood Lake. Skipping a wacky-rigged stick bait under a boat dock or flipping the deep weed edges with a Texas-rigged creature bait are go-to techniques that always produce quality bass.

Millstone River

The Millstone River offers anglers an array of resident gamefish including both largemouth and smallmouth bass, a ton of panfish and trophy-sized carp. Annual stocking of northern pike has not produced a desirable fishery, however channel catfish are plentiful with occasional muskie and walleye being caught, presumably transplants from connecting waters that are stocked. Migratory species include American shad, blueback herring, striped bass, and American eel. Like its mainstem the Raritan River, this 38-mile-long tributary boasts a wide array of fish diversity, with over fifty species of fish found in recent years.

In the continued effort to restore American shad and other migratory fishes on the Millstone River, the Weston Causeway dam in Manville—the lower most impediment to fish passage—was removed during the summer of 2017. This was funded through a Natural Resource Damage Assessment settlement agreement reached between the Trustees for Natural Resources—the NJDEP, the U.S. Department of Interior’s Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—and the party potentially responsible for contamination related to the American Cyanamid Superfund site in Bridgewater Township.

During an electrofishing survey in October 2018, evidence of American Shad spawning in the Millstone River was confirmed. “This is an incredible finding and an amazing environmental success story,” said DEP Commissioner Catherine R. McCabe. “These juvenile shad were found the first unimpeded migratory season after the dam was removed in the summer of 2017, indicating this species has an inherent tendency to recolonize once obstacles are removed from its migratory path.
Principal Biologist Chris Smith holds a 6.73 pound largemouth bass from Union Lake collected in March 2018.

Biologist Eric Boehm holds a northern snakehead weighing 9.89 lbs. and measuring 30.12” collected at Salem Canal in June 2018. Anglers are reminded that snakeheads are invasive and must be destroyed when caught.

A rigorous fish stocking program is not necessary, as a respectable fishery currently exists. In fact, additional stocking of top predators could be contrary to the recovery of the American shad population. Unfortunately, two large invasive species are becoming common—grass carp reaching 46 inches and weighing up to 51 pounds plus flathead catfish up to 22 pounds. If encountered, please remove these and other invasive species that have expanded into this watershed.

Access to the Millstone River is plentiful, particularly through the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park. Most of the river is wadable or can be fished from its banks, but the best approach is floating a small cartop boat or kayak. The river can be accessed by boat from the primitive boat launch at the southern end of Lincoln Avenue Park in Manville.

Salem Canal
Salem Canal is one of the most popular bass fishing locations in southern New Jersey and annually receives the most applications for wildlife management area fishing tournament permits. The canal is a dammed section of the Salem River originating in Woodstown, flowing through the DuPont facility before exiting at its confluence with the Delaware River.

The shallow canal consisting of marshy banks, spawderdock, submerged aquatic vegetation and felled trees make it ideal habitat for largemouth bass and in recent years, the invasive northern snakehead. Although it is not a wildlife management area, Fish and Wildlife owns a parcel of land and a concrete boat ramp located on Rt. 540 (Hawks Bridge Rd).

A boat electrofishing survey was completed in March 2018 to evaluate the largemouth bass and northern snakehead populations. A total of 75 largemouth bass were collected during the 1.77-hour survey. The catch rate of 42 bass/hour is consistent with recent surveys and indicates a good population density for the region. Seventy-nine percent of largemouth bass were greater than 12 inches; 21 percent were greater than 15 inches. The population is balanced and doing well.

Unfortunately, the northern snakehead is well established in the Salem Canal. Surprisingly, only a few reports of anglers catching snakeheads in the canal were received prior to the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries first collecting these invasives in 2017. Ninety-five northern snakeheads were collected and removed via electrofishing in 2018 (as of August) during seven electrofishing surveys. A study is currently underway to determine the grow rates and diet of snakeheads in New Jersey.

Despite the presence of the northern snakeheads, the Salem Canal remains one of the best largemouth bass destinations in southern New Jersey. Early spring and late fall are usually the best times to catch trophy size bass, but the summer months are great for catching lots of small fish. Green pumpkin or black and blue jigs work all year long by fishing the many laydown trees throughout the canal. Spinnerbaits, vibrating jigs and buzzbaits are great choices during the summer, worked around vegetation and laydowns.
**Freshwater Fisheries Forums and Trout Meeting**

**North Jersey Fisheries Forum**  
January 19, 2019; 10 a.m., Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery

**South Jersey Fisheries Forum**  
February 23, 2019; 10 a.m., Batsto Village Visitor’s Center in Wharton State Forest

**Trout Meeting**  
March 2, 2019; 10 a.m., Pequest Trout Hatchery

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**Union Lake**

Union Lake is an 898-acre impoundment of the Maurice River located within the Union Lake Wildlife Management Area, Cumberland County. The lake is the largest impoundment, and—at 27 feet—one of the deepest in southern New Jersey. Union Lake is one of the most-utilized wildlife management areas in the state. It has one of the best largemouth bass populations in southern New Jersey and has been extensively sampled in recent years—for good reason.

Sampling in 2015 suggested that the largemouth bass population had stabilized from previous issues associated with largemouth bass virus. The stocking of over 60,000 fingerling largemouth bass since 2009 has boosted the once-struggling population. Despite the exceptional electrofishing results of the last three years, anglers still find catching bass rather difficult as indicated by the WMA Fishing Tournament reports.

A boat electrofishing survey was completed at Union Lake WMA in March 2018 to evaluate the bass population. A total of 123 were collected during the 2.42-hour daytime survey. The largest individual was 21 inches and weighed 6.73 pounds. The catch rate of 50 bass/hour indicates a good population density for southern New Jersey impoundments.

Ninety-five percent of the largemouth bass collected were over 12 inches, 73 percent were over 15 inches and 5 percent were over 20 inches long. These numbers are off-the-chart for New Jersey waters and indicate a trophy population! Seven largemouth bass of more than 5 pounds were collected during the survey. Although smallmouth bass are not frequently caught during electrofishing surveys at Union Lake, tournament catch reports indicate the population is doing well.

Anglers can test their skills 12 months of the year. Early spring, pre-spawn bass prowl the shallow flats looking for vegetation and places to spawn. These bass can be caught with jigs, spinnerbaits and lipless crankbaits. During the summer, many bass are found lurking in the deeper waters near drop-offs with stumps. Deep-diving crankbaits and Texas-rigged worms work very well. Fall and winter bass can be shallow or deep and lipless crankbaits, suspending jerkbaits and small swimbaits are great choices.

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Introduction

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife’s Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries is responsible for the protection and management of our state freshwater fisheries resources. The bureau’s responsibilities are multi-faceted and include the culture and management of wild and stocked fish populations, protection and enhancement of their habitats and public education about the fisheries resources. On average, the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries conducts over 200 fisheries surveys annually, gathering information on over 40,000 individual fish representing more than 70 species.

Featured below are highlights of select fisheries projects currently underway. For more information on any of the 200 annual surveys conducted by the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries, go to www.NJFishandWildlife.com/bfwf_highlights.htm.

Columbia Lake Dam Removal

The Columbia Lake dam was located 1/4 mile upstream of the Paulins Kill River’s confluence with the Delaware River in Knowlton Township, Warren County. The dam impounded a 43-acre lake, stretching more than 1.5 miles upstream. Since its 1909 construction, the 18-foot high, 330-foot long dam formed a barrier to fish passage, severing New Jersey’s third largest tributary to the Delaware River from its watershed.

This obstruction blocked American shad access to their historic spawning grounds and impeded the movement of American eel. Dam removal in 2018 restored fish passage to over 10 miles of river, restored a natural flow regime and reclaimed 1.5 miles of stream habitat.
Rinehart Brook — Brook Trout Restoration Project

A brook trout restoration project was initiated in 2017 on Rinehart Brook, a tributary to the Black River within Hacklebarney State Park. This restoration project, the first of its kind in New Jersey, was designed to assist the recovery of a struggling brook trout population by removing interspecific competition exerted by non-native brown trout, the dominant species in Rinehart Brook.

Initially, 93 percent of trout in this stream were brown trout. Fish and Wildlife biologists removed more than 1,100 brown trout by electrofishing approximately 2 miles of stream eleven times. These efforts caused a dramatic shift in species composition, and by early October 2018, zero brown trout were found for the first time in the study! In that time the brook trout population has more than doubled. These initial results are very encouraging. The brook trout population has more than doubled, comprising nearly 100 percent of all trout present in Rinehart Brook.

In addition, there was no evidence of a successful brown trout spawn during the fall of 2017, as no young-of-the-year browns were found during sampling the following spring. Biologists will continue to remove brown trout and monitor the brook trout population through electrofishing.

Stocked Trout Movement Study in the Big Flat Brook / Flat Brook Catch and Release Area

A two-year trout movement study in the Big Flat Brook Catch and Release area was initiated in the spring of 2017 to help determine the cause of a low number of stocked trout found during the summer months despite heavy stocking, a no harvest regulation along with adequate temperatures and habitat.

Biologists surgically implanted a tracking transmitter into the body cavity of 80 trout. The transmitters allowed biologists to track individual stocked trout to determine if they were leaving the catch and release area. It was revealed that predators play the biggest role in the limited number of trout. Several transmitters were found among the boney remnants of partially consumed trout, near dens or animal runs. A couple of transmitters were tracked back to a great blue heron rookery.

A radio transmitter is surgically implanted into an anesthetized rainbow trout, allowing biologists to track the fish’s location.
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Native Species Management

Several native freshwater fish species are in decline throughout their ranges due to a combination of factors not limited to: habitat alteration and stream fragmentation, diminished water quality and competition from non-native species. Any loss of New Jersey’s native species could have a severe adverse impact on the ecology and health of the environment. Steps must be taken to conserve these native species. Fish population surveys provide valuable information on these species allowing Fish and Wildlife biologists to map species distributions, assess their status and identify threats to native fishes. Continued fisheries inventories, regulations and implementation of specific management strategies are necessary to protect and enhance these vulnerable species.

Stream Temperature Monitoring

Initiated in 2012 to monitor stream temperature in several major trout stocked rivers and a few trout production streams, the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries expanded its network in 2018 to include 78 sites, making New Jersey’s program one of the largest stream temperature monitoring efforts in the northeast.

The continuous temperature monitoring program is designed to closely monitor stream temperature in areas that have marginal thermal habitat for trout stocking, to understand thermal regimes in our major river systems and to monitor trout production streams. The monitoring of Trout Production streams allows biologists to gain a deeper understanding of stream temperature’s role on the life cycle of New Jersey’s wild trout and to assist in guiding management of these streams, especially under the forces of a warming climate.

The blackbanded sunfish is declining throughout its east coast range, but is holding on within New Jersey’s Pine Barrens.

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The blackbanded sunfish is declining throughout its east coast range, but is holding on within New Jersey’s Pine Barrens.

Native Species Management

Several native freshwater fish species are in decline throughout their ranges due to a combination of factors not limited to: habitat alteration and stream fragmentation, diminished water quality and competition from non-native species. Any loss of New Jersey’s native species could have a severe adverse impact on the ecology and health of the environment. Steps must be taken to conserve these native species. Fish population surveys provide valuable information on these species allowing Fish and Wildlife biologists to map species distributions, assess their status and identify threats to native fishes. Continued fisheries inventories, regulations and implementation of specific management strategies are necessary to protect and enhance these vulnerable species.

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Invasive Species Assessments

Introductions of invasive, non-native fish and aquatic plants are a growing concern of natural resource managers in New Jersey and nationwide because of the potential to dominate and destroy aquatic ecosystems causing irreversible economic and cultural damage. In New Jersey, 10 species of fish (Asian swamp eel, bighead carp, grass carp (diploid) and silver carp, brook stickleback, green sunfish, flathead catfish, oriental weatherfish, snakehead and warmouth have been identified as having the potential to become a significant threat to indigenous animals, the environment or to become a public safety hazard.

Regulated as potentially dangerous fish, possession and/or release of live specimens of these species is prohibited. When these species are encountered while angling, they must be destroyed. (See also Potentially Dangerous Fish, page 17 and Invasive Fish, page 44.)

The northern snakehead is the most recently introduced and frequently discussed of these potentially dangerous species. It is widely distributed within the Delaware River Basin and often sought by anglers. Fish and Wildlife is actively monitoring locations along the Delaware River to remove snakeheads and to assess their effects on game and native fish species.

Weighing over 20 pounds, this large and colorful flathead catfish, an invasive species caught on the Millstone River, is displayed by seasonal fisheries technician Kate McStravog.
New Jersey’s
FREE Freshwater Fishing Days
June 8 and Oct. 19, 2019
NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife has split the Free Fishing Days. The first will be held on June 8, 2019 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 19, 2019 to bring attention to this great fishing opportunity. On these two days, residents and non-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.

Annual Pequest Open House and Fishermen’s Flea Market
Date: to be determined
Keep watch on Fish and Wildlife’s website, Facebook and Instagram pages for the 2019 event date!

Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center
• Wildlife Artists, Conservation Groups, Taxidermists, Guides and Vendors!
• Kids can fish in our famous education pond!
• Family Activities • And More!
Pequest is located on Rt. 46, nine miles west of Hackettstown. For information call (908) 637-4125 or go to NJFishandWildlife.com.

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.

WILD Outdoor Expo
Sept. 7 and 8, 2019
See ad on page 42.

Display Your License: It’s the Law!
Show your support of Fish and Wildlife activities and programs.
Every time you purchase a fishing license or register your boat, a portion of the proceeds go toward preserving our nation’s coastlines, lakes, rivers and streams. Protecting our memories on the water for generations to come.

THE SIMPLE ACT OF FISHING, PRESERVES FISHING.

Learn more at TakeMeFishing.org/Conservation
New Jersey National Guard Licenses

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 DMAVA website at www.nj.gov/military/isd/fishing.html. For all other free sporting licenses, call (609) 530-6866, e-mail or write to: MSG (Ret.) Robert Greene, NJ DMAVA, 101 Eggert Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648.

Disability 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 and your first disabled veteran license may be made via the 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 101 Eggert Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648.

Purchasing a License

Licenses may be purchased by phone at (888) 773-8450, online at www.NJWildlifeLicense.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 our website at NJFishandWildlife.com for details, or call (609) 292-2965. The Trenton Fish and Wildlife office is no longer open to the public for license or permit sales.

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.NJWildlifeLicense.com also linked through our regular website at NJFishandWildlife.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 from Fish and Wildlife’s Trenton office. Call (609) 292-2965 for an application.

Summary of General Fishing Regulations

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

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

It Is Unlawful To:

- Fish within 100 feet (or as posted) of any fish ladder entrance or exit from March 1 through June 30.
- Spear fish in fresh waters. See exception for Delaware River, page 28.
- Possess a fishing device with more than nine hooks in total, or more than three treble hooks, except for the Delaware River; see page 28.
- Use set lines.
- Use cast nets in freshwater lakes or trout stocked waters. See Baitsfish Regulations, page 31 for other exclusions.
- Foul hook or snag any species of fish. This does not apply to fish taken through the ice.

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 for taking fish when ice is present. The devices that may be used are:
1. Ice supported tip-ups or lines with one single 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 measuring 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 must bear the name and address of the user and cannot be left unattended.

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

Potentially Dangerous Fish
The possession or release of live, 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 are directed to 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 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 and Game 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 (north/central) 908-236-2118; (south) 609-259-6964. 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 (north/central) 908-236-2118; (south) 609-259-6964 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.

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**Buddy Fishing License**

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife is rewarding anglers for introducing a “buddy” to freshwater fishing by offering a nearly half-price license to both qualifying anglers!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>License</th>
<th>Regular Price</th>
<th>Fishing Buddy Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resident Fishing</td>
<td>$22.50</td>
<td>$11.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Resident Fishing</td>
<td>$34.00</td>
<td>$17.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-Around Sportsman</td>
<td>$72.25</td>
<td>$62.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eligibility requires at least one new angler:
- A new angler, together with an existing angler, each purchase a discounted fishing license.
- Two new anglers each purchase a discounted fishing license together.

(A new angler is a resident or non-resident who has not purchased a fishing license since 2010.)

For more information, visit [www.NJFishandWildlife.com/fishbuddy.htm](http://www.NJFishandWildlife.com/fishbuddy.htm) or scan this QR code:

* 2019 license fees, page 1, and information, page 16.
General Trout Information

2019 REGULATIONS

Regulations in red are new this year.

2019 General Trout Fishing Information

• Opening day of trout season: Saturday, April 6, 2019 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).

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 8 through May 24). 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 our website at NJFishandWildlife.com where you will also find directions in-season closures. Special regulations may apply on some of these waters, or sections thereof.

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

Bergen County
Dahnnert’s Lake—Garfield (4)
Hackensack River—Lake Tappan to Harriot Ave., Harrington Park Borough (4)
Hobokus 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)

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

Cumberland County
Cohansey River—Dam at Seeleys Pond to powerless above Sunset Lake, Upper Deerfield Twp. (4)
Giampietro Park Lake—Vineland (0)
Mary Elmer Lake—Bridgeport (3)
Maurice River—Willow Grove Lake dam to Sherman Ave., Vineland (4)
Shaws Mill Pond—Down/Lawrence Twps. (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)
Greloch Lake—Washington Twp. (3)
Harrisonville Lake—Pilesgrove/South Harrison Twps. (3)
Iona Lake—Franklin Twp. (3)
Swedesboro Lake (aka Nattracile Lake)—Borough of Swedesboro (3)
Westville Lake—Westville (0)

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

Hunterdon County
Alexander Creek—West Amwell Twp., entire length (2)
Amwell Lake—East Amwell Twp. (3)
Capoolong Creek (aka Cakepoulon 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)
Mulhokaway Creek—Patterson, source to Spruce Run Reservoir, Clinton/Union Twps. (5)
Neshanic River—confluence of First and Second Neshanic Rivers to Rt. 514, Raritan Twp. (2)
Nishiskawick Creek—Frenchtown Alexander Twp., entire length (2)
Rockaway Creek—Readington Twp., entire length (4)
Round Valley Reservoir—Clinton Twp. (1)
Sidney Brook—Franklin/Union Twps., entire length (1)
Spruce Run—Glen Gardner Borough/Lebanon Twp., entire length (5)

OPENING DAY of TROUT SEASON

April 6, 2019 April 10, 2021
April 11, 2020
Stony Brook—(See Mercer Co.)
Wickecheoke Creek—Covered Bridge, Rt. 604, Sergeantsville to Delaware River (2)

**Mercer County**
Assumpink Creek—Assumpink Site 5 dam upstream of Rt. 130 to Carnegie Rd., Hamilton Twp. (4)
Colonial Lake—Lawrence Twp. (3)
Delaware-Raritan Canal—Mulberry St., Trenton to Alexander St., Princeton (4)
Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal—See Hunterdon Co. (6)
Delaware-Raritan Canal—Mulberry St., Trenton to Wickecheoke Creek
Beaver Brook—Morris County
Echo Lake—Middlesex County
Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal—(See Hunterdon—Lawrence Twp. (3)
Stony Brook—(See Mercer Co.)
Mingamahone Brook—Rt. 18, Colts Neck Twp. to
Alexander St., Princeton (4)
Garvey’s Pond—West Long Branch Borough (3)
Franklin Lake—Englishtown Borough (3)
Mamahomeno Lake—Monroe Twp. (3)
Roosevelt Park Pond—Edison Twp. (3)

**Middlesex County**
Hook’s Creek Lake—Cheesequake State Park, Old Bridge Twp. (3)
Ireland Brook—500 ft. upstream of Riva Ave to Farrington Lake, North Brunswick Twp. (2)
Lake Papaianni—Edison Twp. (0)
Lawrence Brook—Dam at Davidson’s Mill Pond to
2nd RR bridge (Raritan Railroad) below Main St., Milltown Borough, excluding Farrington Lake from Church Lane to Farrington Dam (4)
Manalapan Lake—Monroe Twp. (3)
Roosevelt Park Pond—Edison Twp. (3)

**Monmouth County**
Echo Lake—Howell Twp. (3)
Englishtown Mill Pond (aka Weaamconk Lake)—Englishtown Borough (3)
Franklin Lake—West Long Branch Borough (3)
Garvey’s Pond—Middletown Twp. (3)
Hockhockson Brook—Rt. 18, Colts Neck Twp. to
Garden State Parkway bridge (northbound), Tinton Falls Borough (5)
Holmdel Park Pond—Holmdel Twp. (3)
Mac’s Pond—Manasquan Borough (0)
Mingamahone Brook—Birdsal Rd. to Manasquan River, Howell Twp. (5)
Mohawk Pond—Red Bank Borough (4)
Shark River—Rt. 33, Wall Twp., to Remsen Mill Rd., Neptune/Wall Twp. (5)
Spring Lake—Spring Lake Borough (3)
Topanemus Lake—Freehold Twp. (3)
Yellow Brook—Heyers Mill Rd. to Muhlenbrink Rd., Colts Neck Twp. (2)

**Morris County**
Beaver Brook—Rockaway Twp./Borough, entire length (3)
Black River—Route 206 Chester, to the posted Black River Fish and Game club property at the lower end of Hacklebarney State Park (6)
Burnham Park Ponds (Upper and Lower)—Town of Morristown (4)
Drakes Brook—Mt. Olive/Roxbury Twp., entire length (3)
Hibernia Brook—Rockaway Twp., entire length (5)
India Brook—Mountainside Ave. to Rt. 24, Mendham Borough (5)
Lake Hopatcong—Hopatcong/Jefferson/Mt. Arlington/Roxbury (3)
Lake Musconetcong—Netcong Borough/Roxbury Twp./Stanhope Borough (3)
Mt. Hope Pond—Rockaway Twp. (3)
Passaic River—Black Brook confluence to Rt. 24, Chatham Borough (4)
Peachanook 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**
Lake Shenandoah—Ocean Co. Park, Lakewood Twp. (3)
Pohatcong Lake—Borough of Tuckerton (4)
Prospectown Lake—Jackson Twp. (3)

**Passaic County**
Barbour Pond—Woodland Park Borough (3)
Clinton Reservoir—Newark Watershed, West Milford Twp. (3)
Green Turtle Lake—Long Pond Ironworks State Park, West Milford Twp. (3)
Oldham Pond—North Haledon Borough (3)
Pequannock River—Rt. 23, Smith Mills to
Patermann-Hamburg Turnpike, Pompton Lakes/
Riverdale Boroughs (6)
Pompton River—confluence with Ramapo River to
NY Susquehanna R.R. bridge, Wayne Twp. (4)
Ramapo River—Pompton Lake dam to confluence with Pompton River
Ringwood Brook—State line to Sally’s Pond,
Ringwood State Park, Ringwood Borough (5)
Sheppard Lake—Ringwood State Park, Ringwood Borough (3)

**Salem County**
Harrisonville Lake—Pilesgrove/South Harrison Twp. (3)
Maurice River—Willow Grove Lake dam to
Sherman Ave., Vineland (4)
Schadler’s Sand Wash Pond—Carneys Point Twp. (3)

**Somerset County**
Lamington River—Rt. 523 (Lamington Rd.)
Bedminster Twp. to Raritan River N. Br. (4)
Middle Brook, E/Br.—Bridgewater/Warren Twp., entire length (2)
Passaic River—(See Morris Co.)
Peapack Brook—Peapack-Gladstone Borough, entire length (5)
Raritan River—confluence of Raritan River N. Br.
and S. Br. to Rt. 206, Hillsborough Twp./Somerville Borough (4)
Rock Brook—Hillsborough/Montgomery Twp.,
etire length (1)
Spooky Brook Park Pond—Franklin Twp. (0)

**Sussex County**
Alm’s House Pond—Frankford Twp. (3)
Andover Junction Brook—Andover Borough, entire length (2)
Big Flat Brook, Upper—Sawmill Pond, High Point State Park, Montague Twp. to 100 ft. above Crigger Rd., Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. (4)
Blue Mountain Lake—Delaware Water Gap Nat’l Recreation Area, Wallpack Twp. (3)
Clove Brook—source to Clove Acres Lake, Wantage Twp. (5)
Culver’s Creek—Frankford Twp., entire length (5)
Dry Brook—Branchville, Borough/Frankford Twp.,
etire length (3)
Franklin Pond Creek—Hamburg Mt., WMA, Hardyston Twp/Franklin Borough, entire length (5)
Greenwood Lake—Greenwood Lake dam to state line (2)
Lake Aeroflex—Andover Borough (3)
Lake Hopatcong—Hopatcong/Mt. Arlington Boroughs, Jefferson/Roxbury Twp. (3)
Lake Musconetcong—Netcong/Stanhope Boroughs/
Roxbury Twp. (3)
Lake Ocquittunk—Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. (3)
Little Flat Brook—Sandyston Twp., entire length (5)
Little Swartswood Lake—Hampton Twp. (3)
Lubbers Run—Byram Twp., entire length (5)
Neldor Brook—Stillwater Twp., entire length (2)
Papakating Creek—George Hill Rd., Frankford Twp. to Rt. 565, Lewisburg (2)
Papakating Creek, W/Br.—Wantage Twp., entire length (2)
Pond Brook—Stillwater Twp., entire length (5)
Sawmill Pond—High Point State Park, Montague Twp. (3)
Silver Lake—Hamburg Mountain WMA, Hardyston Twp. (0)
Stony Lake—Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. (3)
Swartswood Lake—Stillwater Twp. (3)
Wallkill River—Lake Mohawk Dam to Route 23,
Hardyston Twp. (4-5)
Wawayanda Creek—Vernon Twp., entire length (5)
Wawayanda Lake—Vernon Twp. (3)

**Union County**
Green Brook—Rt. 527, Berkeley Heights Twp. to Rt.
22, Scotch Plains Twp. (2)
Lower Echo Lake—Mountainside Borough (3)
Milton Lake—Rahway (4)
Nan世贸an Park Lake—Cranford Twp. (0)
Passaic River—(See Morris Co.)
Rahway River—1-78 bridge, Springfield to Lawrence St. (Route 514), Rahway (4)
Seelys Pond—Berkeley Heights Twp. (3)
Warrinanco Park Lake—Roselle Borough (0)

**Warren County**
Beaver Brook—Silver Lake Dam to Pequest River,
White Twp. (4)
Blair Creek—Bass Lake dam, Hardwick Twp.
to Blair Lake, Blairstown Twp. (2)
Blair Lake—Blairstown Twp. (5)
Brooklaloo Swamp—Hope Twp., entire length (2)
Buckhorn Creek—Harmony Twp., entire length (2)
Columbia Lake—Knowlton Twp. (3)
Furnace Brook—Oxford Twp., entire length (2)
Furnace Lake—Oxford Twp. (3)
Honey Run—Knowlton-Hope township line to
Beaver Brook, Hope Twp. (2)
Jacksonsburg Creek—Blairstown Twp., entire length (2)
Lopatcong Creek—Rt. S19 Harmony Twp.,
to South Main St., Phillipsburg (5)
Merrill Creek Reservoir—Harmony Twp. (1)
Mountain Lake—Liberty Twp. (0)
Pohatcong Creek—source to Rt. 31, Washington Twp. (2)
Pophandusping Creek—White Twp., entire length (2)
White Lake—Hardwick Twp. (3)
Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring In-season Stocking Dates

After opening day, these waters are closed to fishing from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on their designated stocking dates. Closures apply to all tributaries for 100 feet from the main channel.

*All Brook Trout caught within the BROOK TROUT CONSERVATION ZONE must be released. There are no closures for ANY waters in the fall.

Trout Stocking Hotline: (609) 633-6765.

TROUT STOCKED WATERS CLOSED TO FISHING (5 A.M. TO 5 P.M.) ON SPRING IN-SEASON STOCKING DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stocking Dates</th>
<th>Waterbody</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MONDAYS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 8, 15, 22, 29</td>
<td>Manasquan River</td>
<td>Monmouth</td>
<td>Rt. 9 bridge downstream to Allenwood-Lakewood Rd. (Rt. 21), Wall Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 6, 13, 20</td>
<td>Metedeconk River, N/Br.</td>
<td>Ocean</td>
<td>Aldrich Rd. to Ridge Ave., Howell/Lakewood Twps.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Metedeconk River, S/Br.</td>
<td>Ocean</td>
<td>Bennetts Mill dam to twin wooden foot bridge, opposite Lake Park Blvd. on South Lake Dr., Lakewood Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rockaway River**</td>
<td>Morris, Hunterdon</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 Twps. (Exception: the section regulated as a Year Round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TUESDAYS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 9, 16, 23, 30</td>
<td>Pohatcong Creek**</td>
<td>Warren</td>
<td>Rt. 31, Washington Twp. to Delaware River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 7, 14, 21</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><strong>WEDNESDAYS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 10, 17, 24</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>May 1, 8, 15, 22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>THURSDAYS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2, 9, 16, 23</td>
<td>Ramapo River**</td>
<td>Bergen</td>
<td>State line to Pompton Lake, Oakland (excluding Potash Lake)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRIDAYS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12, 19, 26</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>May 3, 10, 17, 24</td>
<td>Musconetcong River**</td>
<td>Sussex, Warren, Hunterdon</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>Wanake River**</td>
<td>Passaic</td>
<td>Greenwood Lake dam, West Milford, Twp. to Wanake Reservoir dam, Wanake Borough and from Wanake Ave., Pompton Lakes Borough to Pequannock River, excluding the Wanake and Monkville reservoirs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Boundary Waters (see page 28)
Trout-Stocked Streams — Wild Brown Trout Managed

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waterbody</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
<th>Restrictions (in effect year round)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hakihohake Creek** - Little York-Mount Pleasant Rd., Little York Alexander Twp. to Delaware R.</td>
<td>Jan. 1–March 17</td>
<td>Rainbow and Brook Trout</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>4 combined Only 2 of which may be Brown Trout</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lopatcong Creek** - Rt. 519, Harmony Twp., Warren to Delaware R.</td>
<td>March 18–April 6 at 8 a.m.</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Fishing prohibited</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pohquansing Creek** - White Twp., entire length</td>
<td>April 6 at 8 a.m.–May 31</td>
<td>Rainbow and Brook Trout</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>6 combined Only 2 of which may be Brown Trout</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raritan River S. Br.** - Mill dam located 200 feet above Schooley’s Mountain Rd. (Rt 517). Long Valley (Hunterdon), downstream to Lake Solitude dam, excluding Ken Lockwood Gorge (Catch and Release Only)</td>
<td>June 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>Rainbow and Brook Trout</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>4 combined Only 2 of which may be Brown Trout</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saddle River - Lake Street, Upper Saddle River Twp., to West Century Rd., Fairlawn/Parsimus Boroughs</td>
<td></td>
<td>Brown Trout</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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 17</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1. Only artificial lures may be used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18–April 6 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 6 at 8 a.m.–Dec. 31</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>1</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 Riverview 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 Riverview 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 17</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1. Only artificial lures may be used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18–April 5</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 6 (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 24), but all trout caught between 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. must immediately be released.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 6 at 8 a.m.–May 19</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3. Only artificial lures may be used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 20–Dec. 31</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4. 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>
</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 Conrail 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.
**Catch and Release Areas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
<th>Restrictions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>Catch and release all trout</td>
<td>1. All trout must be released immediately and unharmed. A person may not have any trout in their possession. 2. Only artificial lures and flies may be used. 3. Barbell hooks only, with no more than a total of three hook points. 4. Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 5. Fishing is allowed during the spring in-season stocking closures which apply to the rivers.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catch and Release Waterbody (County)</th>
<th>Driving Directions *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Flat / Flat Brook (Sussex)</td>
<td>Rt. 206 bridge downstream to the Roy Bridge on Mountain Rd., a distance of 4.2 miles, including the portion known as the Biewett Tract. Upper boundary: Rt. 206 bridge, approx. 1.6 miles north of entrance to Stokes State Forest (Coursen Road). Lower boundary: Rt. 206 north, app. 1 mile past Stokes State Forest entrance, turn left on Rt. 560. At Layton bear left on Bevens Rd. (Rt. 640) towards Walpack. Continue south 3.4 miles (NPS Rd 615), left onto Fish and Wildlife Rd. to Roy Bridge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raritan S. Br.—Ken Lockwood Gorge (Hunterdon) Section of S. Br. within the Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area (approx. 2.2 miles).</td>
<td>Ken Lockwood Gorge — Road in gorge is closed to through traffic. Route 31 to Rt. 513. Upper boundary: Turn right at Hoffman’s Crossing Rd., take first right after bridge. Lower boundary: Turn right onto Silverthorne–Cokesbury Rd., turn left after crossing river. Park only in designated areas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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 6 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15 Catch and Release at all other times</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></td>
<td></td>
<td>Artificials only, with no more than 3 hook points in total, all barbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Trout</td>
<td>No min. size</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Possession or use of bait, or synthetic bait with bait scent prohibited</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Beatty’s Brook** (Lebanon Twp.)
- **Bear Swamp Brook** (Mahwah Twp.)
- **Hickory Run** (Lebanon Twp.)
- **Lake Ames Tributary** (Pleasantdale/Aswantharingham 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, Sandy Hook Twp.)
- **Trot 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 6 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15 Catch and Release at all other times</td>
<td>2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined</td>
<td>Fishing allowed year-round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow Trout</td>
<td>9”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Artificials only, with no more than 3 hook points in total, all barbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Trout</td>
<td>9”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Possession or use of bait, or synthetic bait with bait scent prohibited</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Brass Castle Creek** (Washington Twp.)
- **Dismal Brook** (Mendham Twp.)
- **Dunnfield Creek** (Walkerton State Forest)
- **Flanders Brook** (Mt. Olive Twp.)
- **India Brook** (source to Mountaingrove Rd., Mendham Twp.)
- **Indian Grove Brook** (Bonncarryville Twp.)
- **Ledgewood Brook** (Roxbury Twp.)
- **Lomerson Brook** (also known as Herzen Brook) (Tequwkany Twp.)
- **Merrill Creek** (Merrill Creek Reservoir Dam to Pohatcong Ck., Point Pleasant Twp.)
- **Raritan River S. Br.** (dam approx. 400 feet above Flanders-Drakestown Rd. to dam 200 ft above Schoolly’s Mtn. Rd. (Rt. 517), Long Valley) in Stokes State Forest, near Lower Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area.
- **Stony Brook** (Washington Twp., Morris Co.)
- **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.)
- **Whippanny 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 6 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15 Catch and Release at all other times</td>
<td>2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined</td>
<td>Fishing allowed year-round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow Trout</td>
<td>9”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Artificials only, with no more than 3 hook points in total, all barbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Trout</td>
<td>12”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Possession or use of bait, or synthetic bait with bait scent prohibited</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Beaver Brook** (Town of Clinton/Clinton Twp.)
- **Burnett Brook** (Chester/Mendham Twp.)
- **Cold Brook** (Tequkwany Twp.)
- **Hakihokake Creek** (also known as Little York Bk. — known 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 Wardsheds) to railroad bridge immediately upstream of Charleston
- **Rockaway Creek N. Br.** (Tequkwany Twp.)
- **Saddle River** (state line to Lake St., Upper Saddle River Borough)
- **Spring Mills Brook** (Holk Twp.) in Stokes State Forest, near Lower Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area.
- **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** (source from 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.*
## 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</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>(Warren)</td>
<td>Lake Trout</td>
<td>Jan. 1–Sept. 15</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sept. 16–Nov. 30</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round Valley Reservoir</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>(Hunterdon)</td>
<td>Lake Trout</td>
<td>Jan. 1–Sept. 15</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sept. 16–Nov. 30</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>2</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 17</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Aeroflex* (Sussex)</td>
<td></td>
<td>March 18–April 6 at 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Wawayanda* (Sussex)</td>
<td></td>
<td>April 6 at 8 a.m.–May 31</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheppard Lake (Passaic)</td>
<td></td>
<td>June 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ticon Lake* (Morris)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 1–March 17</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Lake (Warren)</td>
<td></td>
<td>March 18–April 6 at 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>April 6 at 8 a.m.–Dec. 31</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Waterbodies stocked with salmon

---

**Brook Trout Conservation Zone**

All Brook Trout caught within the zone must be immediately released.
New Jersey Freshwater Fishes

- Brook Trout
- Rainbow Trout
- Brown Trout
- Landlocked Atlantic Salmon
- Lake Trout
- Northern Pike
- Muskellunge
- Chain Pickerel
- Redfin Pickerel
- Walleye
- White Perch
- Yellow Perch
- Striped Bass
- Hybrid Striped Bass
- White Sucker
- Common Carp

Illustrations: Duane Raver/USFWS
**Herring**

- **Alewifwe**: Deep body, no teeth on roof of mouth, large mouth, upper jaw close to rear edge of eye.
- **Atlantic Herring**: Narrow body, no teeth on roof of mouth, eye diameter less than snout length.
- **Gizzard Shad**: Long, filamentous projection from last ray of dorsal fin, round snout overhangs closed mouth.
- **American Shad**: Largest in the herring family, may have a line of spots.
- **Blueback Herring**: Dorsal fin forward of midlength, eye diameter greater than snout length.
- **Hickory Shad**: Lower jaw projects well beyond upper jaw when mouth closed.

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**Other Fish**

- **Largemouth Bass**: Dorsal fin forward of midlength, upper jaw close to rear edge of eye.
- **Smallmouth Bass**: Eye diameter greater than snout length, no teeth on roof of mouth.
- **Redbreast Sunfish**: Teeth on roof of mouth, dorsal fin at midlength.
- **Pumpkinseed Sunfish**: Dorsal fin forward of midlength, lower jaw projects well beyond upper jaw when mouth closed.
- **Bluegill Sunfish**: Dorsal fin forward of midlength, eye diameter greater than snout length.
- **Black Crappie**: Dorsal fin at midlength, eye diameter greater than snout length.
- **White Crappie**: Dorsal fin forward of midlength, round snout overhangs closed mouth.
- **Brown Bullhead**: Long, filamentous projection from last ray of dorsal fin.
- **Channel Catfish**: Dorsal fin forward of midlength, round snout overhangs closed mouth.
- **White Catfish**: Long, filamentous projection from last ray of dorsal fin.

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*Fish Identification: New Jersey Freshwater Fishes* ©2019. Alewifwe, 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 18 to April 6, 2019 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LARGEMOUTH &amp; SMALLMOUTH BASS</th>
<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>Statewide (exceptions below)</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>5 combined</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15–June 15 Catch &amp; Release only (all waters)</td>
<td>Lunker Bass Lakes: Alloway, Assunpink, Parvin and Delaware lakes; Splitrock Reservoir</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>3 combined</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 16–Dec. 31</td>
<td>Conservation Regulations: Ryker Lake</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>2 combined</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NORTHERN PIKE, TIGER MUSKY, MUSKELLUNGE*</th>
<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>Northern Pike: 24 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 20–May 20 are Catch &amp; Release only for Echo Lake Reservoir, Mercer Lake, Mountain Lake, Monksville Reservoir</td>
<td>Statewide (exceptions below)</td>
<td>Tiger Musky &amp; Muskellunge: 40 inches</td>
<td>1 combined</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trophy Muskie Waters: Echo Lake Reservoir, Greenwood Lake (effective 4/1/2019), Lake Hopatcong &amp; Monksville Reservoir</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tiger Musky &amp; Muskellunge: 44 inches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*IMPORTANT: trout may not be used as bait in the Pequest River drainage.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAIN PICKEREL AND REDFIN PICKEREL</th>
<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>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WALLEYE</th>
<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>Statewide</td>
<td>18 inches</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 1–April 30 Catch &amp; Release only</td>
<td>May 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRIPED BASS (freshwater only)</th>
<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>Statewide</td>
<td>One @ 28” to &lt; 43” AND one ≥ 43”</td>
<td>1 AND 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HYBRID STRIPED BASS (freshwater only)</th>
<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 (exceptions below)</td>
<td>16 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></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>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Fishing Regulations

**SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS**

Regulations in red are new this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMERICAN SHAD</th>
<th>SEASON LOCATION MINIMUM SIZE DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Shad</td>
<td>Open Year Round Delaware River Mainstem 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Season Closed in all other fresh waters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FRESHWATER BAITFISH (See page 31 for complete description of gear types and restrictions)</th>
<th>SEASON LOCATION MINIMUM SIZE DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Eel, Banded Killifish, Creek Chub, Fatfish, Fathead Minnow, Gizzard Shad, Golden Shiner, Margined Madtom, Mummichog, and Tadpole Madtom, For Herring, Alewife and Blueback—see Baitfish Regulations (page 31).</td>
<td>Open year round No minimum size 35 combined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Exceptions in trout stocked waters baitfish may only be taken with hook and line: from April 6 to June 15, or in waters open to fishing during the pre-season closure, from March 19 to June 15. | }

* Illustrations by Ted Walke, PA Fish and Boat Commission

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<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 12</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>5 combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>June 9–Dec. 31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>April 13–June 8</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
<td>Catch and release only</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>Muskellunge &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” to &lt; 43” AND one ≥43”</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” to &lt; 43” AND one ≥43”</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 13 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.
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. Information on each state’s fishing regulations can be found at 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.
- 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 when fishing is prohibited within the Delaware Water Gap Natural 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. For online ordering information visit www.state.nj.us/drbc/basin/recreation/recreation/.
- Information for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is available online at www.nps.gov/dewa.
<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 (Effective April 1, 2019)*</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></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</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* January 1 to March 31, 2019 the minimum size limit for muskellunge is 36 inches.

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.

2019 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 18, 2019 on Lake Hopatcong

Fee: $385 includes one-year membership to Muskies Inc. Contact Jim D. via e-mail at muskyschool@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.MuskiesInc.org and 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 6 to June 15, or in waters open to fishing during the pre-season closure, from March 18 to June 15.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Herring, Alewife and Blueback**

- All freshwater streams, rivers and marine waters: CLOSED Possession, take or attempt to take herring PROHIBITED
- Freshwater lakes in Morris, Passaic, Sussex, and Warren counties and Spruce Run Reservoir (Hunterdon): 6 inches maximum 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.
- All other freshwater lakes (regardless of ownership): CLOSED Only purchased herring, no greater than 6 inches, may be possessed. Receipt of purchase, dated within 7 days, must be in possession.

**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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gear</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seine</td>
<td>Not over 50 feet long in ponds and lakes over 100 acres; in all other waters not over 30 feet in length. <strong>Exception:</strong> 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnow Trap</td>
<td>Not larger than 24 inches in length with a funnel mouth no greater than 2 inches in diameter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umbrella Net</td>
<td>No greater than 3.5 feet square.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dip Net</td>
<td>Not more than 24 inches in diameter; may be used only for alewife or blueback herring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cast Net</td>
<td>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).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hook and Line</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Turtle and Frog Regulations

**SPECIES**

- **Snapping Turtle**
  - **SEASON:** April 1–May 14, July 1–October 31
  - **LOCATION:** Statewide
  - **MINIMUM SIZE:** 12 inches
  - **DAILY LIMIT:** 1 per day

- **Bull Frog and Green Frog**
  - **SEASON:** January 1–March 31, July 1–December 31
  - **LOCATION:** Statewide
  - **MINIMUM SIZE:** No minimum
  - **DAILY LIMIT:** 15 per day, combined

**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 between 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.

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For more information, contact New Jersey Freshwater Issue, NJFishandWildlife.com or NJ State Police (NJSP) (609) 882-2000.
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 Forest
- 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
- Pomponio Creek—Required whole length
- Rancocas Creek—Required whole length
- Swedes River—Required whole length
- Wading River—Charcoal Landing, Chips Holly Campground

**CAMDEN COUNTY**
- License required on Delaware River and all other waters

**CAPE MAY COUNTY**
- Bidwell 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 Bridgeton
- Dividing Creek—Rt. 555 bridge
- Fishing Creek—None—all saline water
- Fortescue Cr./Branch of Oranokeen Cr.—None—all saline water
- Manumuskin Creek—Required whole length
- Maurice River—Mouth of Manumuskin Creek near Port Elizabeth
- Menantico Creek—Required whole length
- Mill Creek—Tributary of Cohansay—Rt. 553 bridge, Fairton
- Muske Creek—S. side of bridge on Weatherby Rd.
- Nantuxent Creek (Pages Run)—Rt. 553 north of Frames Corner
- Oranokeen Creek—Whitecar Mill, Port of Beaver dam
- Oyster Creek—None—all saline water

**ESSEX COUNTY**
- Passaic River—Edison Road dam
- Pontiac Creek—None—all saline water
- Passaic River—Railroad bridge between Newark (at Verona Ave.) and Kearny

**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
- Raritan River—Landing Lane bridge, New Brunswick
- South River—Rt. 527 bridge (New Brunswick Old Bridge Tpk.)
- Woodbridge River—N.J. Turnpike bridge

**MONMOUTH COUNTY**
- Black Creek—Smith’s Mills Lock, Morganville
- Branchport Creek—Mouth of Turtle Mill Brook
- Deal Lake—Top of dam
- Hockhockson (Pine) Brook—Garden State Parkway northbound bridge
- Little Silver Creek—Little Silver Creek Brook
- Monasquan River—Bennetts bridge, Manasquan Wildlife Management Area
- Matawan Creek—Lefferts Lake dam
- Oceanport Creek—Mouth of Husky Brook
- Parkers Creek—Mouth of Parkers Creek Brook
- Shark River—Rt. 35 bridge at Barnegat Inlet
- 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
- Dining 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—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

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**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.

Regulations in red are new this year.

REGULATIONS FOR USE of wildlife management areas (WMAs) are established by the Division of Fish and Wildlife with penalties of no less than $50 nor more than $1,500. A second violation of any WMA regulation will result in a five-year loss of all sporting licenses and privileges.

Information on these regulations and permit applications may be obtained by writing to New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420.

Fish and Wildlife may revoke any permit or other authorization issued for violation or due cause.

The following are prohibited: camping, swimming, picnicking, geocaching, dumping, cutting or damaging vegetation, removing timber or firewood, alcoholic beverages and fires.

Restricted Hours

Wildlife Management Areas are closed from 9 p.m. until 5 a.m. unless engaged in lawful hunting, fishing or trapping activities.

Special permission may be granted for Fish and Wildlife approved activities.

Motor Vehicles

No person shall operate an unregistered vehicle on roads under the control of the Division of Fish and Wildlife. All motor vehicles are restricted to established public roads and parking areas.

The use of dog sleds and dog carts, off-road vehicles, ATVs, trailbikes or snowmobiles is prohibited on all wildlife management areas unless authorized by Fish and Wildlife.

Target Practice

Only archery, shotgun, muzzleloading shotgun, muzzleloading rifle and .17 plus .22 caliber rimfire rifle shooting is allowed in designated hunter training ranges according to posted regulations at the training area. Other target practice is allowed only with permission from the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Field Trials

Permits for use of wildlife management areas for running of field trials may be granted by Fish and Wildlife.

Information on these regulations and permit applications may be obtained by writing to New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420.

Fish and Wildlife may revoke any permit or other authorization issued for violation or due cause.

The following are prohibited: camping, swimming, picnicking, geocaching, dumping, cutting or damaging vegetation, removing timber or firewood, alcoholic beverages and fires.

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.

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.

Horseback Riding

Horseback riding is allowed on designated WMAs only by permit from the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Apply online at www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. Horseback riding permits should be displayed on outer clothing while riding. For more information on horseback riding permits, call (609) 259-2132.

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.

Residents 70 years and older are not required to obtain a boat ramp maintenance permit and need no license, but must affix to their window proof of age, such as a former license displaying your date of birth.

1. Round Valley Angler Access
2. Assunpink
3. Dennis Creek
4. Tuckahoe
5. Mad Horse Creek
6. Union Lake
7. Menantico Ponds
8. Prospertown Lake

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.

State Police Marine Law Enforcement Stations

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

Create Your Own WMA Map

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has a Web-based tool called NJ-GeoWeb. Those with Internet access can create maps for any Wildlife Management Area. NJ-GeoWeb provides a wealth of other environmental information, too!

This interactive program is updated on a regular basis so most of the latest information is available.

To access NJ-GeoWeb, go to the DEP’s website at www.state.nj.us/dep/gis/geowebsplash.htm. Click on “Launch NJ - GeoWeb, then GeoWeb Profile.”

Those without Internet access can request a specific wildlife management area by calling (609) 984-0547.
Motor boats with big casting decks are fun to fish from, but for fishing New Jersey lakes and ponds, a kayak is the perfect watercraft to navigate our shallow lakes.
Safety First!

Before getting on the water, it is important to have the necessary safety gear. Three things are essential for every trip on the water: a life vest known as a Personal Flotation Device (PFD), a whistle and a cell phone—in a floating waterproof pouch. Even a good swimmer or a skilled kayaker should be prepared in case something happens that you end up in the water. I take these precautions every time I’m on the water, whether on a kayak or in a boat.

Kayak Fishing Equipment

Fishing from a kayak limits how much gear can be brought. Choose equipment that is versatile. Most fishing kayaks come equipped with two or more rod holders. I often carry four fishing rods while kayak fishing, each with a specific purpose, to help me catch bass in a multitude of conditions. These are my preferred gear selection combos for a trip on the water:

• **Rod 1:** A spinning rod rigged with a black or green pumpkin wacky worm. A wacky worm will catch fish in any lake at any time of the year. For weedy lakes or to fish lily pads, just switch to a Texas-rigged worm, reducing the likelihood of snagging.

• **Rod 2:** A spinning rod set up with any small, soft, plastic 3- or 4-inch paddle tail swimbait on a light jig head. This bait works extremely well in the spring around spawning beds but also in the fall when bass are feeding up for the winter ahead. This setup can be transformed into a small crankbait or even an inline spinner.

• **Rod 3:** A bait-casting rod rigged either with a 3/8 oz white chatterbait or a 3/8 oz white spinnerbait. Chatterbaits are useful when the conditions are windy or the water is highly stained. Throw the spinnerbait when the water is calm or clear. In the winter, substitute these for a lipless crankbait.

• **Rod 4:** A topwater set-up. It may be a spinning rod with a popper on the end or a bait-casting rod rigged either with a frog or a buzzbait. Topwater set-ups are a good match for low light conditions such as early morning, evening or cloudy, rainy days. The bait-casting rig provides more options as it can be changed during the day into a jig and pig set for flipping and pitching vegetation and wood.

Power Your Kayak

Kayaks are a more economical option than a power boat.

A fully-rigged kayak costs thousands less than even the most affordable, basic fishing boat and motor. Beyond the substantially lower cost upfront, kayak anglers spend less on towing, fuel costs, insurance, maintenance and launch fees. A kayak is also great for those who live in an apartment, condo or trailer home with limited storage options. Neither a large driveway nor spacious garage is required to own a kayak. From urban to rural settings, a kayak is an excellent fishing platform to get you away from the bank.

Not all fishing kayaks are created equal.

Kayaks are available in many sizes and styles to fit varying skill levels, performance needs and personal preferences. The two main styles are sit-in kayaks and sit-on-top kayaks. For fishing, I prefer a sit-on-top style. This type of kayak provides ample room for tackle, rods and other gear needed for a long day on the water.

For beginners, a sit-in kayak is more suitable because these are easier to maneuver and usually lighter in weight. Before purchasing a kayak, “test drive” several styles. Kayaks are also available in paddle or pedal drive models. Traditional paddle kayaks are propelled by the energy of your arms using a paddle dipped into the water. Pedal kayaks move through the water by use of your legs—in a motion similar to pedaling a bicycle—to turn either an underwater propeller or flap system. Many kayak dealers have a demo plan, allowing you to try-before-you-buy, guiding you through the design options to fit your needs and your budget.

On a recent trip to Assunpink Lake, my friend and fellow kayak angler, Mark Sowers, caught a beautiful 23-inch, 7-pound bass—proving that New Jersey has trophy-sized fish to target! You can do that from a kayak, too! So, grab a few rods, a box of baits and enjoy what New Jersey has to offer. Great fishing destinations are right around the corner and are perfectly suited for the pursuit of big bass from a kayak.

For more information on the South Jersey Kayak Bass Fishing Club, visit SJKBFC.com.

Access Where Boats Cannot Go

Plenty of waterbodies don’t have access for a full-size boat or prohibit gas engines. But a kayak is easily transported by cartop or truck bed and can be launched practically in any body of water. New Jersey offers hundreds of lakes, spread over every county, filled with fish that can only be accessed by kayak. Often, these bodies of water get low fishing pressure, yet may offer some of the state’s biggest fish.

• Kayak fishing is a stealthy way to be on the water, allowing anglers to experience nature up-close in a non-intrusive way.

• A kayak allows fishing in places that boats just cannot reach.

• Kayaks can float over lily pads, maneuver in water that is only inches deep and fish among stumps and rocks.

M y father taught me how to fish as soon as I could walk. All summer long we’d go saltwater fishing at the shore for flounder, bluefish, weakfish or anything else that might take a minnow or a piece of squid. Growing up in the Garden State, this is what I thought fishing was.

Later we moved to Mays Landing near Lake Lenape, a beautiful body of water in Atlantic County. To me, freshwater fishing didn’t exist. All I knew were those summer days fishing at the shore.

One day I walked to the lake with a fishing rod my father had given me years before and tossed out my first earthworm into the water. To my surprise, several species of fish took the bait! Later I learned they were bluegills and crappie. It was fun watching the bobber sink with violent strikes from these panfish.

About an hour into that first freshwater experience, I tossed my bobber and worm near a tree stumps and rocks. The aerial acrobatics while reeling in this fish was something I had never seen before at the end of the fishing line. It was my first largemouth bass.

I had discovered freshwater bass fishing—New Jersey!

Quickly I became a student of the sport to experience that thrill over and over. While fishing from the banks and improving my skills, I knew that getting on the water would provide access to more fish. The hunt was on.

Our family had an inflatable kayak that was primarily used as a giant pool toy. Venturing out on the lake one day with this vessel, fishing rod in hand, I tried my luck. This is what made me—now and forever—a kayak fishing angler!

Since those early days, my gear and kayaks have changed dramatically as my pursuit for big bass continued. Gone are the earthworms, having been replaced by evidence of a never-ending search for the next great bass-catchig lure. One rod turned into many rods as I learned different techniques to catch fish.
Law Enforcement

OPERATION GAME THIEF

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

Operation Game Thief

Report Abuse of our Outdoor Heritage!

1-855-OGT-TIPS
24 Hours a Day, Seven Days a Week

The person who poaches, pollutes habitat and abuses public land tarnishes the image of sportsmen and robs us of our fish and wildlife as well as tax and license dollars. You can make a difference.

Call OGT to report:
• Negligent use of firearms
• Over the limits for game and fish
• Commercial exploitation of fish and wildlife
• Pollution of habitat, dumping on state land
• Destruction of signs and state property
• Illegal killing, taking or possession of any wildlife

It’s Free. It’s Confidential.
You May Be Eligible for a Reward.

Funded by the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs.
Designed to encourage sportsmen to report poaching and wildlife crimes.

RAISE CHICKENS?
We have a wide selection of the finest handcrafted coops to fit anyone’s budget.

Sheds Stuff
Call Us Now for Pricing & Information!
1.866.411.SHED

Showcase your business!

If you care about:
• Wise management of fish and wildlife populations
• 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

Name__________________________
County________________________
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Ask about year-round digital opportunities.

New Jersey Fish & Wildlife Digest NJFishandWildlife.com 2019 Freshwater Issue
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

Join us for the 28th Annual Governor’s Surf Fishing Tournament!

May 19, 2019

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

Congratulations Keri Mauger of Mohnton, PA who took the grand prize and NJ Governor’s Cup by catching a 36-inch bluefish at the 27th Annual Tournament.

Also, congratulations to Toms River High School South for winning first place in the High School Team Category with a 35 1/2-inch bluefish.

A special thanks to our 2018 donors:

- American Angler
- Chestnut Neck Boat Yard
- Friends of Island Beach State Park
- Grumpy’s Bait and Tackle
- Jersey Coast Surfcasters
- NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife’s Hooked on Fishing — Not on Drugs Program
- World Jeep
- The Fisherman
- The Reel Seat
- Shark River Surf Anglers

A special thanks to our 2018 High School Team Category donors:

- The Fisherman
- The Reel Seat
- Shark River Surf Anglers

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!

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Check online for fish consumption advisories on the local water body in which you fish! Go to www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org
New Jersey's Stocking Programs

NJFISHANDWILDLIFE.COM

WARMWATER STOCKING

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

Muskellunge: 9–11” (11,770)
- DOD Lake
- Echo Lake Reservoir (1,572)
- Furnace Lake (150)
- Greenwood Lake (3,303)
- Lake Hopatcong (3,303)
- Little Swartswood Lake
- Mercer Lake (338)
- Monksville Reservoir (760)
- Mountain Lake (150)

Surplus water*:
- Cooper River Park Lake
- Delaware River
- Manasquan Reservoir

Northern Pike: 6” (32,119)
- Budd Lake (2,930)
- Farrington Lake (3,138)
- Millstone River (2,290)
- Passaic River (3,465)
- Pompton Lake (3,154)
- Pompton River (2,578)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (6,514)

Surplus water*:
- Cranberry Lake
- Deal Lake

Tiger Muskellunge: 10” (1,781)
- Greenwood Lake (365)
- Little Swartswood Lake (100)
- Lake Hopatcong (658)
- Lake Musconetcong (658)

Walleye: 2” (296,007); 4” (39,104)
- Canistear Reservoir (4,250)
- Delaware River (119,289)
- Greenwood Lake (7,680)
- Lake Hopatcong (10,844)
- Monksville Reservoir (2,000)
- Swartswood Lake (8,685)

Surplus water*:
- Delaware River

Hybrid Striped Bass: 4” (52,002)
- Lake Hopatcong (27,733)
- Manasquan Reservoir (11,369)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (12,900)

Landlocked Salmon: 14” (6,277)
- Lake Aeroflex (1,369)
- Merrill Creek Reservoir (325)
- Tilcon Lake (1,192)
- Wawayanda Lake (3,391)

Largemouth Bass: 2” (161,558); 4” (3,491)
- Delaware River (8,420)
- East Creek Lake (2,243)
- Greenwood Lake (15,016)
- Lake Hopatcong (49,911)
- Lake Lenape (6,862)
- Lake Musconetcong (8,508)
- Manasquan Reservoir (9,979)
- Pemberton Lake (5,228)
- Prospertown Lake (5,042)
- Rancocas Creek (20,834)
- Salem Canal (8,390)
- Sheppards Mill Pond (5,005)
- Sunset Lake (5,208)
- Union Lake (20,663)

Surplus water*:
- Cranberry Lake
- Deal Lake

Channel Catfish: 6” (21,112)
- Seven waters

Channel Catfish: 14”
- Seventy-two waters (9,509)

Channel Catfish: 28”
- Twenty-four waters

Plus thousands of black crappie, bluegill sunfish and brown bullheads stocked in over 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 million fish each year, representing 15 species.

Warmwater Fish Stocking List

Scan this QR code with your mobile device to view New Jersey’s warmwater fish stocking list or go to NJFishandWildlife.com/fish_warmwater.htm
TROUT STOCKING
Raised with pride at New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife’s Pequest Trout Hatchery

Spring
- Over 570,000 rainbow trout
- 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 88 lakes stocked statewide
- All 21 counties stocked
- 180,000 trout released for Opening Day—April 6, 2019
- Stocking continues for seven weeks following Opening Day

Fall
- Second and third weeks in October
  (fall stocking begins October 8, 2019)
- All large, two year old trout, measuring 14–16 inches
- 21,000 trout stocked
- 37 streams, lakes & ponds
- 1,000 rainbow trout breeders, averaging 20 inches
- Best chance to catch big trout

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

FREE Fishing Days
—June 8 and Oct. 19, 2019—
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 http://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. An angler who submits five applications of qualifying fish of different 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 your first fish caught no matter the age of the angler. Qualified anglers will receive a First Fish certificate. There are also four “Slam” categories — an Inshore Slam 1, Inshore Slam 2, Offshore Pelagics Slam and Marlin Slam. For the Inshore Slam 1, an angler must submit qualifying applications for a striped bass, bluefish and fluke. For the Inshore Slam 2, an angler must submit qualifying applications for black sea bass, tautog, and weakfish. The Offshore Pelagics Slam will be obtained if an angler submits qualifying applications for bluefin tuna, bigeye tuna, yellowfin tuna and dolphin. For the Marlin Slam, an angler must submit qualifying applications for a white marlin and a blue marlin.

Each month, the leaders of each category and species will be posted on our Skillful Angler Leader Board web page. At the end of the year, special recognition is given to anglers who catch the largest fish in each species category. The winner of each category is sent a special certificate recognizing his/her accomplishment along with a winner’s patch as the best of New Jersey’s Skillful Anglers.

Fish must be measured from the tip of the nose (with mouth closed) to the tip of the tail. For catch and release categories, the fish must be measured and photographed alongside a ruler. For Adult/Junior Division, fish must be weighed and measured by a fishing license agent, tackle shop or authorized Fish and Wildlife fisheries biologist.

New! Email your entry and photo from any device!
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 State Record Freshwater Sport Fish

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>lbs.</th>
<th>oz.</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Angler</th>
<th>Where Caught</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bass, Rock</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Eric Avogardo</td>
<td>Saddle River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass, Smallmouth</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Carol Marciniak</td>
<td>Round Valley Reservoir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluegill</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Dom Santarelli</td>
<td>Farm Pond in Pennington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowfin</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Pierce Dopkin</td>
<td>Mantua Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carp</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Billy Friedman</td>
<td>South Branch of Raritan River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carp (Archery)</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Adam Faatz</td>
<td>Greenwood Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carp, Grass</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Jack Demsey, Jr.</td>
<td>Curls Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carp, Grass (Archery)</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Hunter Whitehead</td>
<td>Delaware River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catfish, Channel</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Howard Hudson</td>
<td>Lake Hopatcong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catfish, White</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Timothy Jasko</td>
<td>Dallenbach Pond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crappie, Black</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Andy Tintle</td>
<td>Pompton Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crappie, White</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>William Lewis</td>
<td>Mercer Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eel, American</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>David J. Payne</td>
<td>Round Valley Reservoir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muskellunge</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Bob Neals</td>
<td>Monksville Reservoir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muskie, Tiger</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Larry Migliarose</td>
<td>Delaware River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perch, White**</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Edward Tango</td>
<td>Forest Hill Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perch, Yellow*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Gene Engels</td>
<td>Holiday Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perch, Yellow*</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1865</td>
<td>Charles Abbott</td>
<td>Crosswicks Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickerel, Chain</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Frank McGovern</td>
<td>Lower Aetna Lake</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pickerel, Redfin</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Gerald Humphrey</td>
<td>Lake Assunpink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike, Northern</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>John Viglione</td>
<td>Pompton Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salmon (Landlocked)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Runelvy Rodriguez</td>
<td>Lake Aeroflex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shad, American</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Charles Mower</td>
<td>Delaware River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped Bass</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>John Christian</td>
<td>Great Egg Harbor River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped Bass, Hybrid</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Bill Schmidt</td>
<td>Culvers Lake</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunfish, Pumpkinseed</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Daryl Donalson</td>
<td>Farm Pond in Burlington County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trout, Brook</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Andrew DiJack</td>
<td>Rockaway River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trout, Brown</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Lenny Saccente</td>
<td>Round Valley Reservoir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trout, Lake</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Greg Young</td>
<td>Round Valley Reservoir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trout, Rainbow</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Gene Ruthkoski</td>
<td>Lake Hopatcong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trout, Sea Run Brown</td>
<td>— Vacant — (Minimum Weight 5 lbs.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>George Fundell</td>
<td>Delaware River</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Denotes historical record  
** Denotes fish has been certified by the IGFA as a world record

Runelvy Rodriguez holds her New Jersey state record landlocked salmon caught from Lake Aeroflex in 2018.
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 April or May 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

New Jersey WILD OUTDOOR Explore. Experience. Enjoy!

September 7 & 8, 2019
10 am - 5 pm daily
Colliers Mills Wildlife Management Area
Jackson Township, NJ

Fishing Hunting/Trapping Instruction
Kayaking Fish and Wildlife Exhibits
Birding Outdoor Supply Flea Market
Rock Climbing Trap Shooting
Archery Camping Skills
Hiking Air Rifle Range

And much more FREE family fun!

For more information, visit WildOutdoorExpo.com
**Item** | **Cost** | **Website** | **Source**
---|---|---|---
Accessible Fishing Sites For People With Disabilities | Free | Yes | 1
Commercial (fee-based) Fishing Preserves in NJ | Free | Yes | 1
Delaware River Boat Access | Free | Yes | 1
Disabled Veterans—Free Fishing License application | Free | Yes | 1
Field Guide to Dragonflies and Damselflies of NJ—Book | $39 | No | 4
Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians of NJ—Book | $18 | No | 4
Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians of NJ—CD | $12 | No | 4
Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians of NJ—Book/CD Set | $25 | No | 4
Lake Survey Maps (specify waterbody) | Free | Yes | 1
List of Fishing Guides | Free | Yes | 1
Manasquan River Fishing Access Areas | Free | Yes | 1
State Parks & Forests Maps | Free | No | 3
USGS Topographic Maps | $10 | No | 2
Visually Impaired—Free Fishing License application | Free | No | 4
Visually Impaired—Large Format Freshwater Fishing Digest (Enlarged photocopy of this Digest) | Free | No | 4
Wildlife Management Area Maps (specify name of WMA) | Free | Yes | 1

**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.

More than 1,000 rainbow trout like this 12-inch beauty will be jaw-tagged for the Hook a Winner Program. Catch one if you can!

**Sedge Island Field Experience Programs — Summer 2019**

- **Sedge Island Fishing Experience:** A 4-day, 3-night marine fishing intensive program. Open to students going into grades 8 and 9 in the fall of 2019.
- **Barnegat Bay Field and Research Experience:** A 6-day, 5-night program focused on conducting field research. Open to high school students.
- **Sedge Island Field Experience:** A 4-day, 3-night program that has students work alongside biologists in the salt marsh field. Open to students going into grades 7, 8 and 9 in the fall of 2019.
- **Bay to Bowl:** A 3-day, 2-night program open to adults interested in harvesting food from the bay and learning preparation and cooking techniques.

For more details, dates and cost visit [NJFishandWildlife.com/sedge_summer.htm](http://NJFishandWildlife.com/sedge_summer.htm) or contact Karen Byrne at Karen.Byrne@dep.nj.gov.
Protect New Jersey's Waters

INVASIVE ALERT—New Zealand Mud Snail Found in New Jersey Waters!

The invasive New Zealand Mud Snail has been officially documented in the Musconetcong River at several locations downstream of Rt. 78 between Warren and Hunterdon counties. This species is a threat to our freshwaters and may compete with and displace native invertebrates. Despite its name, New Zealand Mud Snails can tolerate a wide variety of habitats, including reservoirs, estuaries, rivers and lakes. They are most prolific in waterbodies with a constant temperature and flow but are highly adaptable. Measuring just 4–5 mm in length, they are easy to overlook—yet a single female can result in a colony of 40 million snails in one year!

IMPORTANT: All anglers and boaters are urged to help protect New Jersey’s aquatic resources by inspecting equipment transported between waterways, including boats and trailers. Drain, clean and dry all equipment and clothing BEFORE visiting other waters!

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 Gibbstown.

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.

American eel—native

Pectoral fins present; no gill slits.

American brook lamprey—native

No pectoral fins; gill slits present.

Asian swamp eel—invaded

No pectoral fins; no gill slits.

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 Freshwater Fishing Digest

Internet Address .......................................................................................................................... NJFishandWildlife.com

General Information .................................................................................................................... (609) 292-2965
DEP ACTION LINE—24 HOURS ................................................................................................. (877) 927-6337 — (877) WARN-DEP
Automated Harvest Report System .......................................................................................... (855) 448-6865 — (855) I-HUNT-NJ

Commercial Preserves and Semi-Wild Preserves .................................................................. (908) 735-7040
Exotic & Nongame Captivity Permits ....................................................................................... (908) 735-5450
Sagebrush Permits ..................................................................................................................... (908) 735-8793
Field Trial Permits ...................................................................................................................... (609) 259-2132

Freshwater Fisheries
Lebanon Field Office (North)
P.O. Box 394, 1255 County Rd. 629, Lebanon, NJ 08833 .......................................................... (908) 236-2118

Assunpink Regional Office (South)
1 Eldridge Rd., Robbinsville, NJ 08691 .................................................................................... (609) 259-6964

Horseback Riding Permits ........................................................................................................ (609) 259-2132
Hunter Education ....................................................................................................................... (877) 248-6865 — (877) 2-HUNT-NJ

Hunting and Fishing Diving License........................................................................................ (609) 292-2965
Hunting and Trapping Permit Hotline ...................................................................................... (609) 292-9192
License Sales ............................................................................................................................... (888) 773-8450

Operation Game Thief ............................................................................................................... (855) OGT-TIPS
Outstanding Deer Program ....................................................................................................... (609) 633-7598
Pheasant and Quail Stocking ...................................................................................................... (908) 984-0547
Trout Stocking Hotline ................................................................................................................ (609) 633-6765

Wildlife Conservation Corps .................................................................................................... (908) 735-7040
Wildlife Control ........................................................................................................................ (908) 735-8793
Wildlife Education .................................................................................................................... (908) 637-4125
Wildlife Management Areas ...................................................................................................... (908) 984-0547

Trenton Office
Mail Code 501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

Endangered and Nongame Species ......................................................................................... (609) 292-9400
Land Management ..................................................................................................................... (609) 292-9404

Marine Fisheries ........................................................................................................................ (609) 292-7794

Shellfisheries ............................................................................................................................... (609) 292-3093
Wildlife Management ............................................................................................................... (609) 292-6685

Northern Region Office
26 Route 73 W, Hampton, NJ 08827

Wildlife Management ............................................................................................................... (908) 735-7040
Endangered and Nongame Species (1 Van Syckel’s Rd.) .......................................................... (908) 638-4127
Hunter Education ....................................................................................................................... (877) 2-HUNT-NJ

Wildlife Control ........................................................................................................................ (908) 735-8793
Land Management ..................................................................................................................... (973) 383-0918

Law Enforcement (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren counties) ........................................................................................................ (908) 735-8240

Central Region Office
1 Eldridge Rd., Robbinsville, NJ 08691

Freshwater Fisheries ................................................................................................................ (609) 259-6964
Land Management .................................................................................................................... (609) 259-2132

Hunter Education ....................................................................................................................... (877) 2-HUNT-NJ

Wildlife Control ........................................................................................................................ (609) 259-7955
Law Enforcement (Burlington, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, and Ocean counties) ............ (609) 259-2120

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

Freshwater Fisheries ................................................................................................................ (856) 629-4950
Hunter Education ....................................................................................................................... (877) 2-HUNT-NJ

Land Management ..................................................................................................................... (856) 629-5016
Law Enforcement (Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem counties) ......................................................................................................................... (856) 629-0555
Wildlife Control (Now at Nacote Creek office) ......................................................................... (908) 748-2044

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 Rt. 9 N. (Milepost 51) Port Republic, NJ 08241

Marine Fisheries ......................................................................................................................... (856) 748-2020
Marine Fisheries “Listen Only” regulation information line .................................................... (856) 292-2083
Shelffisheries ............................................................................................................................... (856) 748-2040
Marine Education ....................................................................................................................... (856) 748-4347
Marine Law Enforcement .......................................................................................................... (856) 748-2050
Wildlife Control ........................................................................................................................ (856) 748-2044

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