

## ATTENTION ANGLERS !

The Division of Fish and Wildlife's Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries is currently using tagged trout to evaluate the trout fisheries on the following waterbodies:

Waterbody	County
Round Valley Reservoir	Hunterdon
Lake Hopatcong	Morris/Sussex
Shepherd Lake	Passaic
Aeroflex Lake	Sussex
Silver Lake	Sussex
Furnace Lake	Warren
White Lake	Warren

The cooperation of anglers, by the return of tags from harvested fish, is imperative to our successful evaluation of these waters. Trout have been tagged with a metal, lower jaw tag.

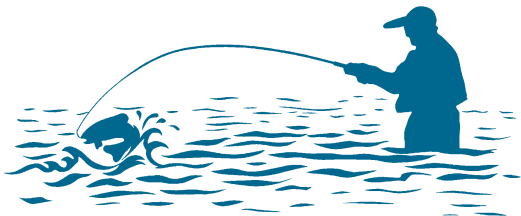


These tags are distinguished from the Division's Hook A Winner Program and other sportsmen groups or hatchery tags in that the return address on the tags reads "Lebanon, NJ". Tag collection boxes, with reporting envelopes, are located at various sites around these waterbodies. If you catch a tagged fish and plan to **release it, please do NOT remove the tag.** Release the fish with the tag intact. However, if you plan to keep the fish, carefully remove the metal tag from the fish's jaw. Complete **all** information on the outside of the reporting envelope. This information is important to the success of these studies. Place the tag in the envelope and drop it through the

slotted box located on the bottom of the pole. If there are no envelopes within the receptacle, the tag can be placed in an envelope and mailed to the Lebanon Fisheries Laboratory Box 394, Lebanon, NJ 08833. The tag needs to be **FLATTENED** prior to mailing. Be sure to include relevant information such as the tag number, waterbody, date captured, length of fish and your name, address and phone numbers in the event additional information is required. Your cooperation is most appreciated. If you have any question, call the Lebanon Fisheries Lab at (908) 236-2118.

### New Jersey's FREE Fishing Days are Saturday and Sunday, June 1 & 2, 2002

On these two days residents and non-residents may fish the public waters of New Jersey without a license or trout stamp. All other regulations apply.



**Zebra Mussels have already cost millions to boaters, industries, towns and cities in the Great Lakes and along the Mississippi.**

- **DRAIN** all water from bait buckets and live wells
- **REMOVE** all weeds from boats and trailers
- **CHECK** boats and motors for zebra mussels
- **DRY** boats and trailers completely between launches

## DON'T HELP THEM SPREAD !

### How to Identify It

- ❖ Zebra mussels look like small clams with a yellowish or brownish "D" – shaped shell, usually with alternating dark and light colored stripes.
- ❖ They can be up to 2 inches long, but most are under an inch. Zebra mussels usually grow in clusters containing numerous individuals and are generally found in shallow, nutrient rich water.
- ❖ Zebra mussels are the **ONLY** freshwater mollusc that can firmly attach itself to solid objects—rocks, dock pilings, boat hulls, water intake pipes, etc.

### What to Do

- ❖ Note the date and precise location where the mussel or its shell was found.
- ❖ Take the mussel with you (several if possible) and store in rubbing alcohol. **DO NOT THROW IT BACK IN THE WATER**
- ❖ **IMMEDIATELY** call Dr. Michael Weinstein, New Jersey Sea Grant Headquarters, (732) 872-1300 extension 21

Courtesy of University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute

### Operation Game Thief—Report Wildlife Violators



The Operation Game Thief (OGT) hotline provides a toll-free phone line to report violations of laws protecting wildlife. If you know of incidents involving wildlife including the dumping of hazardous, toxic or solid waste; illegal harvesting of small lobsters; poisoning of birds; and violations of deer, wild turkey and endangered species laws, call 1-800-222-0456. If the information you anonymously provide leads to the issuance of a summons, you may be eligible for a cash reward. The OGT program is sponsored jointly by the Division and the New Jersey Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs.

## "Hooked On Fishing—Not On Drugs", A Program For Life

By Wayne Tonnesen, Conservation Officer



From the small creeks in northern counties to the wide expanse of the Delaware Bay, from trout streams to the Gulf Stream, New Jersey is rich in fishing opportunities. Within a few minutes drive from anywhere in the state you can find an interesting place to fish. Although New Jersey is the most densely populated state in the country, we have one of the most diverse fisheries in the nation. With bluegills to blue sharks and largemouth bass to striped bass there is something for everyone.

Fishing is a sport that can be started at any age and by any person regardless of gender, physical size or athletic ability. It is a sport that can be enjoyed with family or friends and it allows all participants to be treated as equals. A way to introduce someone to fishing is through the "Hooked On Fishing—Not On Drugs" program.

"Hooked On Fishing—Not On Drugs" is a unique, nationally accepted drug prevention program offered through the American Sportfishing Association. It is presented by certified instructors at the local level with lessons that are geared towards students in grades K-12. The "Hooked On Fishing—Not On Drugs" program can be offered in many different ways, such as;

- an elective class in school
- an after school program
- integrated into the school curriculum
- offered by community groups, like churches and service organizations.

This is an excellent program for helping young people cope with the problems of today's society. The program will;

- build self-esteem and self-confidence
- develop higher order critical thinking skills
- give young people a positive alternative to the destructive use of drugs and alcohol.

During the program the students learn about;

- aquatic ecology
- outdoor ethics
- respect for themselves and others
- how, when and where to fish
- how to make their own lures and catch their own bait

Lessons provide the students with hands on, real life experience and incorporate peer teaching and mentoring. Guest experts can be utilized to teach classes on subjects like fly tying, saltwater fly fishing and boating safety. During the lessons the message that you don't need to use alcohol or drugs to have fun is interwoven into the class.

"Hooked On Fishing—Not On Drugs" is becoming a huge success. It's the type of program that not only will help reduce drug and alcohol use in younger people, but will also bring families closer, by giving them something they can all participate in together. For more information, visit Future Fisherman Foundation website at: [www.futurefisherman.org](http://www.futurefisherman.org) and click on HOFNOD.

## Outdoor Skills Workshop for Women



Photo by Judy Weiseman Wood

New Jersey's "Becoming an Outdoors-Woman" (BOW) Program is part of a nationwide effort to help women overcome barriers to participation in outdoor recreation by providing opportunities to try new activities. Since it began at the University of Wisconsin in 1991, the program has exploded in popularity. BOW can be found in 44 states and 8 Canadian Provinces across North America. New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has been offering BOW workshops since 1995.

Although BOW workshops are designed for women, they offer anyone 18 years old or older opportunities to try new outdoor activities, improve existing skills, and meet other outdoor enthusiasts. The three-day BOW and one-day "Beyond BOW" workshops offer hands-on instruction in hunting, angling, and related outdoor pursuits in a relaxed, non-competitive atmosphere.

All of our instructors have many years of experience afield. They were chosen for their ability to pass on their knowledge and their belief in encouraging anyone who has an interest to get involved in the outdoors.

To find out more about the BOW program, log on to our website at [www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com) or mail in the coupon below. Those with an e-mail account can subscribe to the BOW list-serve (electronic mail service). The BOW list-serve will send automatic updates about the BOW program and workshop availability. It's simple to subscribe. Just send an e-mail from your account to [majordomo@listserv.state.nj.us](mailto:majordomo@listserv.state.nj.us), leaving the subject line blank. In the body, type: subscribe njbow. Then send; that's it! A confirmation message will ask you to return an authorization code. Once this is done, you'll be ready to receive automatic updates about New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's BOW Program.

To be placed on the BOW mailing list, complete this coupon and send to: NJF&W, 220 Blue Anchor Rd., Sicklerville, NJ 08081.

### Outdoor Skills Workshops

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center

## Annual Open House

Saturday & Sunday • April 6-7, 2002  
10 am-4 pm daily



### GET READY FOR TROUT SEASON!

Celebrate the start of spring at the state trout hatchery  
Meet fisheries biologists & conservation group volunteers  
View fish sampling equipment • Try casting a variety of rods  
Feed the fish • Visit the Living History Encampment  
Try shooting a .22 rifle, bow, BB gun or laser beam shoot  
Visit with wildlife artists • Kid's craft and hands-on activities  
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Division of Fish and Wildlife  
908-637-4125 • www.njfishandwildlife.com



## Hook A Winner Program

Once again this year, the Division of Fish and Wildlife will be jaw tagging more than 1,000 brook trout for release in New Jersey waters. If you are a lucky angler who lands one of these fish, send your name, address, fish tag number and location of catch to the Pequest Trout Hatchery, 605 Pequest Road, Oxford, NJ 07863, Attn: Hook a Winner Program. In recognition of your catch, you will be mailed a certificate and award patch. In addition, your name will be forwarded to the New Jersey State Council of Trout Unlimited and entered into their drawing for one of 12 rod and reel combinations to be held during the celebration of National Fishing Week.

## Lake inventories available for sale

A booklet entitled *Inventory of New Jersey Lakes and Ponds* (Vol. 1, No. 1) is available by mail from the Division of Fish and Wildlife. The 12 inventories in this booklet provide information on lakes recently monitored by the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries. The work was done under a Federal Aid In Sportfish Restoration Project. These investigations include fish populations and physical characteristics of a representative sample of lakes open to public angling.

Included is information on the location of the water, the fish species present, recent stocking information, water depths, weed distribution and water quality including dissolved oxygen distribution. The following lakes are included:

- |                                   |                                        |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Amwell Lake, Hunterdon County     | Manasquan Reservoir, Monmouth County   |
| Assunpink Lake, Monmouth County   | Merrill Creek Reservoir, Warren County |
| Budd Lake, Morris County          | Scarlet Oak Pond, Bergen County        |
| Colliers Mill Pond, Ocean County  | Tummill Pond, Ocean County             |
| Furnace Lake, Warren County       | Union Lake, Cumberland County          |
| Green Turtle Pond, Passaic County | Wilson Lake, Gloucester County         |

The cost of a bound copy of these 12 Lake Inventories is \$3.00 including postage and handling. Please make checks payable to "NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife." Send your request to: Lake Inventories, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries, PO Box 394, Lebanon, NJ 08833.

## Support Wildlife Law Enforcement

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	Shipping & Handling	\$5.00	—	\$5.00
	Total	—	—	

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town/City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Skillful Angler Awards Program

By *Walter S. Murawski, Supervising Biologist*

The Skillful Anglers Program is designed to supplement the New Jersey State Record Fish listing by recognizing that many anglers catch both freshwater and marine fish, which may not be of record size, but nonetheless are of sufficient size and weight to have tested the anglers skill and thus be worthy of recognition.

Fisherman qualifying for a Skillful Anglers Award receive a signed certificate attesting to their achievement along with a bronze pin suitable to be worn on a fishing hat, jacket, etc. Only one pin and one certificate will be awarded per individual for each species which qualifies.

At the end of each year, special recognition is given to the anglers who caught the largest fish in each of the species categories. The winners of these categories are presented with a Special Award recognizing their accomplishments as the best of New Jersey's Skillful Anglers.

The procedure to obtain an award is easy. Fill out an application and have the fish weighed at a commercial establishment having a certified scale and have the proprietor sign the form testifying to the weight. All applications must be submitted within 30 days of catching the fish.

A brochure explaining the details of the program can be obtained from any Division office, or by calling us at (908) 637-4125, or writing to us at NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife, 605 Pequest Rd., Oxford NJ 07863.

The minimum weight required to win a Skillful Angler Award for the various species are as follows:

Largemouth bass . . . . . 6 pounds	Chain pickerel . . . . . 4 pounds
Smallmouth bass . . . . . 4 pounds	Northern pike . . . . . 10 pounds
Striped bass hybrid . . . . . 8 pounds	American shad . . . . . 7 pounds
Carp . . . . . 25 pounds	Brook trout . . . . . 3 pounds
Channel catfish . . . . . 9 pounds	Brown trout . . . . . 8 pounds
Crappie . . . . . 2 pounds	Lake trout . . . . . 8 pounds
Muskellunge	Rainbow trout . . . . . 5 pounds
(incl. Tiger) . . . . . 20 pounds	Walleye . . . . . 5 pounds



Photo: © Tom Pagliaroli, courtesy of *New Jersey Outdoors* magazine.

## Application for Recognition as a New Jersey Skillful Angler

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Fish Species (subject to verification by state biologist)

\_\_\_\_\_

Weight \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. \_\_\_\_\_ oz. Length \_\_\_\_\_

Girth \_\_\_\_\_ Date Caught\*\* \_\_\_\_\_

Where \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

Caught from: \_\_\_\_\_ boat \_\_\_\_\_ shore \_\_\_\_\_ surf

\_\_\_\_\_ jetty \_\_\_\_\_ other (specify)

Captain \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_

Line Test used \_\_\_\_\_ Reel \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Rod \_\_\_\_\_

Lure \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Certification

Fish measured and weighed by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Establishment's Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature (from establishment)

I hereby certify this fish was caught in New Jersey waters in accordance with state laws and regulations, and that this fish was weighed on a certified scale.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\*All applications must be submitted within 30 days of catching the fish.*

Mail application to:  
 NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife  
 Skillfull Angler Awards Program,  
 P.O. Box 400  
 Trenton, NJ 08625-0400

## New Jersey's Eighteenth Waterfowl Stamp and Print, Second in the Landmark Series

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's Waterfowl Stamp Advisory Committee is proud to announce the second print in the Landmark Series "Tundra Swans at Barnegat Bay" featuring the Sedge House in the background. This year's artist, Bob Hautman is coming off his recent winning of the 2001/02 Federal Duck Stamp competition. Bob Hautman's achievements are numerous, including winning the 1997 and the previously mentioned 2001 Federal Duck Stamp contest. In 1995, he finished second only to his younger brother, Jim. His designs were selected for the 1995 Minnesota Pheasant Stamp, the 1992 and 1988 Minnesota Duck Stamp and the 1989 Nevada Stamp.

The Barnegat Bay Watershed is primarily located in Ocean County, New Jersey. Covering more than 450 square miles of tidal shoreline, back bay islands, marsh creeks and pine/oak forest, the Barnegat Bay region is a delight those whose interest is natural resources. Barnegat Bay is a large shallow lagoon-type estuary characteristic of the back bay system of a barrier island coastline. It is roughly 40 miles long and one to four miles wide. Bay islands are intrinsically havens for wide diversity of wildlife. Sedge Island, one of more than 165 islands in Barnegat Bay, is no exception. The landscape of the island is diverse, offering the typical Spartina marshes which are inundated twice daily by the nutrient rich tidal water, as well as substantial upland areas of eastern red cedar, bayberry, groundseed and assorted deciduous small trees and shrubs. The adjacent island, Great sedge, is home to the state-endangered peregrine falcon, as



well as numerous ospreys. Black skimmers and common terns have also used the islands for refuge and nesting sites. Bay islands provide the ideal habitat and environment for numerous bird species.

The 22-acre Hensler Sedge Island is located in the Barnegat Bay, just more than one mile west from the Bayshore at the southern end of Island Beach State Park.

Sedge Island has a great deal of historical significance. This island's main building, the Sedge House hunting lodge, was built in 1919 and has since had an intriguing past. It's use has varied from family retreats to hunting and fishing camps. President Woodrow Wilson is reported to have signed one of the migratory bird conservation treaties at the house, and Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig visited there on hunting excursions. The hunting lodge, which could accommodate 18 people, is considered to be the best remaining example of the many commercial hunting camps

that formerly existed on Barnegat Bay.

Sedge Island was recently acquired by the Trust for Public Land from the Hensler family and conveyed to the State of New Jersey for public use and historic preservation and as an educational and environmental field station. The site is used by the Division of Fish and Wildlife for authorized wildlife education programs and is being managed as the Sedge Island Wildlife Management Area. Sedge Island is the cornerstone of New Jersey's newly created first Marine Conservation Zone.

New Jersey, through an act of the State Legislature, began annually requiring waterfowl hunting stamps in 1984. The program is administered by the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Fish and Wildlife for the purpose of purchasing wetlands for waterfowl habitat. Proceeds from the sale of New Jersey's Duck Stamps and Prints have totaled over \$3,700,000 since 1984, all to acquire wetlands for waterfowl habitat and public use. To date over 11,700 acres of waterfowl habitat have been purchased or donated by the program.

For more information on how to purchase a print, collector duck stamps or the Habitat 2000 Souvenir stamp card, send a SASE to: The Waterfowl Stamp Advisory Committee, NJ Fish and Wildlife, P.O. Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400. Or come visit us on the web at [www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com) by clicking on the products section. The important thing to remember is all profits go to preservation of habitat! Buy a framed print from the Division and SAVE AN ACRE!

## NEW JERSEY WILDLIFE VIEWING GUIDE



The NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife is proud to announce the publication of the New Jersey Wildlife Viewing Guide. The publication of the Guide is the culmination of a two year project coordinated by the Division's Endangered and Nongame Species Program to establish a network of viewing sites throughout the state.

The Guide beautifully illustrates the rich natural treasures that few people realize exist in the state. Experience the amazing diversity of New Jersey's wildlife and habitats at 87 of the state's best Wildlife Viewing Areas. The 165 page Guide is full of color photos and illustrations and provides directions to each site and information on site facilities, best viewing seasons and which animals and habitats can be seen.

Unique to the New Jersey Guide is the addition of Wildlife Diversity Tours. In four regions, expanded information is provided on five sites in each region that when experienced through a 2-3 day trip provide a deeper understanding and appreciation of the ecosystems and wildlife found in the region.

*Order yours today by using the order form.*

*The creation of the Wildlife Viewing Guide and the development of a Watchable Wildlife Program for New Jersey was made possible in part through grants from the EPA, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and Department of Defense. Major funding has been provided through proceeds from the sale of 'Conserve Wildlife' license plates.*

### WILDLIFE VIEWING GUIDE ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send Check or Money Order for \$10.95 Plus \$3.95 S/H to:  
**NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Endangered and Nongame Species Program**  
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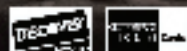
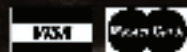
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*Evan F. Nappen, Esq. is the author of  
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