

2004 Angle

January and February

- Go fishing for sea-run brown trout in the Manasquan River. Use small minnow plugs and retrieve slowly.
- Try fishing through the ice for trout, yellow perch, chain pickerel and largemouth bass. Use tip ups or try jigging.
- Make a day trip to the Upper Delaware for walleyes. Jigs and nightcrawlers are the preferred baits. Local experts recommend motor oil-colored "power worms".
- Get involved! Attend the annual public trout meeting at Pequest Trout Hatchery in Warren County on Feb. 14 at 10 a.m.
- Give trout fishing a try at one of Fish and Wildlife's winter trout-stocked lakes. For a list of those lakes, visit www.njfishandwildlife.com.

March

- Remember, fishing is prohibited at all waters listed for trout stocking from March 22 through April 10 at 8 a.m. For exceptions, refer to the "Trout Fishing" regulations in this *Digest*.
- Catch sea run brown trout in Manasquan River. Try using nightcrawlers, spawn sacks and minnows.
- Hook early American shad in the Delaware River at the Mercer Generating Station.
- Visit the Pinelands to catch chain pickerel. Try old cranberry bogs and the Mullica River. Use golden shiners, killies, spinners and small minnow plugs.
- Try fishing for yellow perch at the "bulkhead" in Mays Landing.
- Go fishing for black crappies in Lake Assunpink. Use live baits; hair jigs and small tube lures are productive artificial lures.

April

- Enjoy the much-anticipated opening day of trout season on April 10 at 8 a.m.
- Remember, "Catch and Release" season for largemouth and smallmouth bass is April 15 through June 15.
- Don't miss the opportunity to catch shad. The American shad run traditionally peaks in the Delaware River during the last two weeks of April.

- Try surface poppers and live bait to bring in striped bass ascending the Delaware and Atlantic Coast Rivers. Refer to "Warmwater and Coolwater" and "Boundary Waters" regulations for site-specific seasons and creel limits.
- Go fishing for hybrid striped bass in Lake Hopatcong from boat or shore at Brady's Bridge. Top water plugs or suspending lures are effective.

May

- Celebrate spring with other anglers at the Pequest Trout Hatchery's Fish Festival and annual open house, May 22 and 23. Get a behind-the-scene tour of the facility. Feed big trout in the raceways. This is a great trip for children!
- Do some fast-and-furious fishing for striped bass using surface poppers at Trenton Falls. Watch strippers boil at the surface as they chase your lure.
- Have a productive day of smallmouth bass fishing in the Upper Delaware River, Merrill Creek Reservoir and Union Lake.
- Try fishing at "Holdover" and "Trophy Trout" lakes. Drift fishing with herring and trolling crankbaits are proven techniques.
- Go muskellunge fishing; it becomes more productive as water temperatures heat up. New Jersey's top muskie areas are: Greenwood Lake, Echo Lake Reservoir, Lake Hopatcong, Mountain Lake, Mercer Lake, Monksville Reservoir and the Delaware River.

June

- Have fun during National Fishing and Boating Week, the first week in June.
- Fish for free on June 12 and 13. Find out more about Fish and Wildlife's Free Fishing Days events at www.njfishandwildlife.com
- Get children involved in Fish and Wildlife's "Fishing Derby" program. Visit www.njfishandwildlife.com for information on fishing derbies.
- Remember, after June 15, "Catch and Release" is no longer in effect for largemouth and smallmouth bass. Catch a "lunker" at one of Fish and Wildlife's "Lunker Bass Lakes".
- Give tournament angling a try. You may find the friendly competition addictive.

rs' Calendar

- Catch bluegills and pumpkinseed with ease these days. Use nightcrawlers, mealworms and crickets.
- Go fishing at one of New Jersey's top 10 largemouth bass lakes: Assunpink Lake, Delaware Lake, Lake Hopatcong, Lake Wawayanda, Manasquan Reservoir, Parvin Lake, Rainbow Lake, Sunset Lake, Swartswood Lake, and Union Lake.
- Try artificial lures and live bait for some productive smallmouth bass fishing in the Upper Delaware River.

- Enjoy productive fishing for channel catfish in the Delaware and the 90 lakes stocked by Fish and Wildlife. Try using chicken liver, dip worms and nightcrawlers.
- Go bow fishing for carp in the shallows at lakes and streams. Bow fishermen should know that a freshwater fishing license is required.

July

- Don't go to Canada to catch walleyes. Here at home, Monksville Reservoir, Swartswood Lake, and Lake Hopatcong have expanding walleye fisheries. Drift fishing at night with herring or trolling deep-diving crankbaits are good bets.
- Give carp fishing a try. Find good tips in the "Freshwater Clydesdales" article featured in this *Digest*.
- Check it out: Tiger muskie angler catches peak in Rancocas Creek this month. Try big golden shiners and large swimming minnow imitator plugs.
- Try bottom fishing for channel catfish in Lake Hopatcong. Brady's Bridge and Great Cove are good locations. Use nightcrawlers, dip worms and chicken liver.
- Go trolling and drift fishing with live herring for productive hybrid striped bass angling at Spruce Run Reservoir. Baits should be fished 10 feet deep.

August

- Try bottom fishing in Lake Hopatcong for channel catfish. Local experts highly recommend Brady's Bridge and Great Cove. Try using cut bait, dip worms, chicken liver, uncooked hot dog, and nightcrawlers for bait. Refer to the Division's web page for a list of other lakes stocked with channel catfish. Take your catch home for dinner, channel catfish are excellent table fare.
- Hybrid striped bass angling is productive at Spruce Run Reservoir by trolling with deep diving crank baits and drift fishing with herring and golden shiner. Baits should be fished at least ten feet deep for optimal success.

September

- Enjoy great muskellunge fishing! The action heats up as water temperatures cool down again. Use swimming plugs and live bait.
- Catch largemouth bass as cooling water temperatures concentrate them and trigger feeding activity. Try rattletraps in Rainbow and Parvin Lakes.

October

- Participate in Fish and Wildlife's fall trout stocking program. If you are from South Jersey, try fishing in a North Jersey stream for a change of pace.
- Go shoreline fishing in the shallows for holdover rainbow trout at Round Valley Reservoir. Don't miss out on this exciting fishery!
- Try hair jigs and tube lures to catch hungry black crappies that are schooling in cooler, deeper water.
- Have fun fishing for northern pike at Farrington Lake, Spruce Run Reservoir and Budd Lake.
- Catch sea-run brown trout in Manasquan River on nightcrawlers, spawn sacks and minnows.

November and December

- Go fishing for walleye in the Upper Delaware River. Jigs and nightcrawlers are the preferred baits. Local experts recommend motor oil-colored "power worms".
- Reel in sea-run brown trout in Manasquan River by using nightcrawlers, spawn sacks and minnows.
- Give trout fishing a try at one of Fish and Wildlife's winter trout-stocked lakes.



Pequest Trout Hatchery and
Natural Resource Education Center



Fish Festival



Saturday & Sunday

May 22-23, 2004

10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily



Annual Open House

Two days focusing on fish!

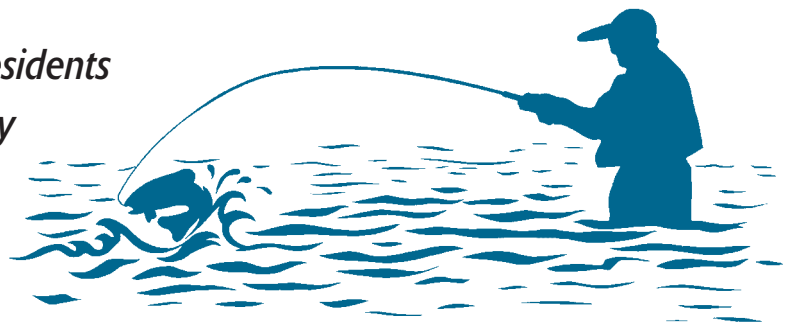
- Kids craft and hands-on activities including fish printing, casting contests and gill net maze
- Wildlife artists and taxidermists that specialize in fish and aquatic subjects
- Displays and demonstrations by conservation groups
- Fisheries management demonstrations and exhibits
- Information on where to fish and fishing techniques
- Fish cleaning, smoking and cooking demonstrations (free tasting)
- Primitive fishing equipment demonstrations and historic information about fish management
- Fly tying demonstrations

Pequest is located on Rt. 46 nine miles west of Hackettstown
in the heart of Warren County's trout country.

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife
(908) 637-4125 • www.njfishandwildlife.com

New Jersey's FREE Fishing Days are Saturday & Sunday, June 12 & 13, 2004

*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.*



Houseboat Rentals

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118 MILES OF SHORELINE



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aboard one of our fully equipped rental houseboats.*

Our houseboats range from 40 to 58 feet in length. They all have living and dining areas, kitchens equipped with stove, refrigerator, microwave; bathroom with full sized shower; 1 to 4 bedrooms, air conditioning and generators. The front decks are complete with large ice chest, table & chairs & gas grill. The larger models have waterslides and our four newest ones also have hot tubs on the top deck.

Marina Facilities also include:

- *Pontoon boat Rentals for riding, fishing, skiing, tubing.
Skis, tube, ski rope and ski vests furnished*
- *Utility boat Rentals* • *Sightseeing*
- *Marina Store* • *Restaurant*
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cruises aboard our luxury
cruise boat Princess*

*Make your
reservations to visit
us this season
April thru October.*

*Call or write
for our 2004
brochures.*

SEVEN POINTS MARINA

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New Jersey's Freshwater Fish



Brook Trout



Brown Trout



Lake Trout



Rainbow Trout



Northern Pike



Chain Pickerel



Muskellunge



Redfin Pickerel



Yellow Perch



White Perch



Walleye



Hybrid Striped Bass



Striped Bass



American Shad



Alewife Herring



Blueback Herring

New Jersey's Freshwater Fish



Largemouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass



Redbreast Sunfish



Pumpkinseed Sunfish



Bluegill



Black Crappie



White Crappie



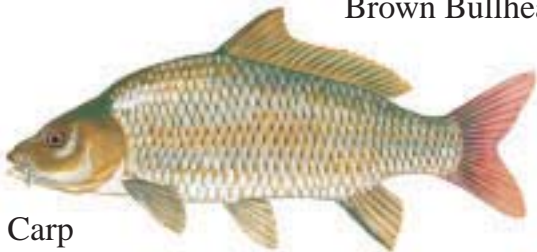
Channel Catfish



White Catfish



Brown Bullhead



Carp



White Sucker



Fallfish