

Waterbodies

Waterbody	Some of New Jersey's Finest Fishing Opportunities
Assunpink Lake	One of New Jersey's Lunker Bass Lakes. This lake is managed under special regulations. 15-inch size limit and three fish creel. This lake annually produces bass in excess of seven pounds. The well-defined creek channel and submerged grass are prime largemouth habitat. Texas-rigged plastic worms, crankbaits, rattletraps and black and blue jigs are great lures. Crappie fishing really heats up in the spring when fish move into the shallow flats with stumps.
Farrington Lake	Located in the heart of Central New Jersey, Farrington Lake is considered one of the best northern pike lakes in the state. The upper section of the lake — and in particular, the Riva Ave bridge — are focal points of angling activity each spring. Excellent largemouth bass, black crappie and sunfish populations also exist. A spring stocking of trout rounds out the extensive fishing opportunities.
Greenwood Lake	Situated on the New York – New Jersey border, Greenwood Lake is a walleye and muskie paradise. Walleye are frequently caught in the northeast section of the lake, south of Chapel Island. Muskie can be found in the lake's many grass beds, particularly those in close proximity to deep water. Largemouth bass and smallmouth bass abound and are frequently targeted by tournament anglers. Bass fishing enthusiasts should try the grass bed north of Fox Island.
Lake Aeroflex	One of only six holdover trout lakes within the state, Lake Aeroflex provides year-round trout fishing opportunities. This lake received recently reintroduced landlocked Atlantic salmon. The current state record dating back to 1951 (8 pounds) once swam in its depths. Lake Aeroflex also provides opportunities for largemouth and smallmouth bass. Nestled away in Sussex County, it's a great place to get away.
Lake Hopatcong	New Jersey's largest lake also hosts one of the most diverse fisheries in the state. Stocked annually both by Fish and Wildlife and the Knee Deep Club, this 2,600 acre lake receives three species of trout (rainbow, brook and brown), walleye, channel catfish, muskie and hybrid striped bass. The lake also has an excellent population of largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, yellow perch and black crappie. Lake Hopatcong is considered a freshwater angling dream. During the winter, ice fishing is extremely popular for several species. River Styx, Woodport, and King's Cove are always great fishing locations for a variety of species.
Manasquan Reservoir	In the sixteen years since it was first filled, this reservoir has developed an excellent warmwater fishery. There are acres of structure in the form of underwater tree stumps, cabled log fish shelters and stone rip-rapped dikes. Standing timber, encompassing much of the perimeter, is vertical structure for black crappies. Pea-sized gravel provides the ideal spawning substrate for largemouth and smallmouth bass. Landlocked alewife herring are forage for 7-pound hybrid striped bass and large channel catfish. Tiger Muskies and muskellunge fill the repertoire of fishing opportunities at Manasquan Reservoir.
Mercer Lake	Largemouth bass fishing is excellent in this impoundment with the deepest waters only about 20 feet. Fish and Wildlife recently completed an artificial habitat project where over 300 discarded Christmas trees were placed in the lake for habitat. Muskellunge have been quite productive here because of a large gizzard shad forage base and a healthy panfish population. Crappie and channel catfish are readily caught fishing in around the lakes abundant structure.
Merrill Creek Reservoir	Boasting depths of over 200 feet, Merrill Creek is only one of two reservoirs within the state with developed lake trout fisheries. Excellent smallmouth bass population also exist with extensive offerings of rip-rapped dikes and standing timber. Managed for trophy rainbow and brown trout. Angling opportunities are enhanced by sightings of bald eagles that frequent the reservoir and large flocks of snow geese that visit each winter.
Monksville Reservoir	Situated between Greenwood Lake and the Wanaque Reservoir, Monksville Reservoir supports a dynamic fishery for muskellunge, walleye, largemouth and smallmouth bass. Standing and fallen timber abound in this reservoir. Bass anglers will find great success fishing around the standing timber. Muskie fishing is excellent. The deep-water area near the dam is great for walleye. Crappie also can be found in and around the timber. Lake trout were stocked in the fall of 2006; time will tell what fishing opportunities will develop.
Parvin Lake	One of New Jersey's Lunker Bass Lakes, Parvin annually produces bass in excess of six pounds. Fall fishing can be phenomenal as largemouth gorge themselves of gizzard shad. October, November and December may be cold but the fishing is hot. The six-foot hole in front of the swimming beach is a must fish spot!
Round Valley Reservoir	New Jersey's premier trout fishing experience is found nestled within Hunterdon's Cushetunk Valley, featuring perhaps the most southern reproducing population of lake trout that reach trophy proportions. Brown and rainbow trout are also generously stocked both by Fish and Wildlife and the Round Valley Trout Association. The reservoir's excellent largemouth and smallmouth bass are gaining notoriety here and are found in the shallower areas (less than 50 feet) where a combination of vegetation and rock hold the largest numbers.
Salem Canal	Actually a damned-up section of the Salem River, this shallow impoundment is one of South Jersey's most popular largemouth bass hot spots. This is a shallow water angler's dream with abundant trees and lily pads to flip a jig and spinnerbait around. Fishing for black and white crappies is excellent around shallow wood cover and bridge abutments.
Spruce Run Reservoir	Spruce Run provides some of the most diverse fishing opportunities of the two Hunterdon County reservoirs. Hybrid striped bass are regularly caught trolling deep water in the southern and central part of the lake. Large and smallmouth bass, channel catfish, northern pike, crappie and carp are all-time favorites. The flats in the northern fingers where Spruce Run Creek, Black Brook and Mulhockaway Creek enter the lake are lined with stumps, making these prime locations for largemouth bass and black crappie.
Swartwood Lake	An excellent all around lake for largemouth, smallmouth, yellow perch, sunfish and crappie with many shallow areas and lots of emergent vegetation along the northern and eastern shorelines. It is also the place to target that trophy walleye. Maximum depth is 40 feet; the bottom is littered with large rocks and boulders. A spring stocking of trout also provides seasonal trout fishing opportunities.
Union Lake	Largemouth bass and smallmouth bass are the two most popular species targeted by anglers at Union Lake. Areas such as the "road bed" and the "osprey nest" are classic Union Lake hot spots. Try using Texas-rigged plastic worms, black and blue jigs and crankbaits around grass edges and drop-offs. Crappie fishing is hot in October and November. Try fishing live minnows and 1/16 ounce jigs around brush piles in 10-20 feet.

New Jersey's Finest

County	Size (acres)	Boat Access	Outboard and other Restrictions	Fee	Directions
Monmouth	225	New concrete ramp	Electric motors only	No	Exit 11 off Rt.195. At ramp's end go north Cox's Corner and follow Imlaystown-Hightstown Rd. straight to boat ramp.
Middlesex	290	Gravel/dirt ramp	Electric motors only	No	Take U.S. 1 south approx. 1.5 mi. to exit for Rt.171 South/U.S. 130 south. Follow U.S.130 South approx. 1.5 miles to third traffic light (Washington Place). Left on Washington Place.
Passaic	1920	Concrete Ramp Private marinas along SW side of the lake	Unlimited horsepower, with a 45 mph speed limit.	Fees vary	Take Rt. 287 to Rt. 511 north to Rt. 210 north.
Sussex	100	Gravel ramp	Electric motors only Open to fishing 24 hours a day.	No	Rt. 80 to Rt. 206 north. Approx.. 8 miles through Andover Borough. Turn right onto Goodale Road and follow it approx. 1 mile to park entrance on right.
Morris	2685	Concrete ramp Private marinas and state and County Parks	Unlimited horsepower 30 mph speed limit in effect on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from May 15 - Sept. 15	Fees vary	Rt. 80 to Exit 30 (Mt. Arlington).
Monmouth	720	Concrete ramp	Electric motors only Boaters must wear life vest at all times. Propeller or gas tank must be removed from gas motor.	Yes	Located in Howell Twp, Exit 28 off Rt. 195. Follow Rt. 9 to Windeler Rd.
Mercer	275	Concrete ramp	Electric motors only	No	Rt. 295 to Sloan Ave. east (Rt. 649), becomes Flock Rd. to Rt. 535 (Mercerville-Edinburg Rd./Old Trenton Rd.) to park entrance.
Warren	650	Concrete ramp	Electric motors only Boats must be at least 12 feet in length. Boat ramp is open from dawn until dusk.	Yes	Rt. 78, Exit 4, right at bottom of ramp. Turn right at blinking light onto Rt. 638, Washington Street. Cross diagonally over Rt. 57 and go up Montana Rd. Go 2 mi., bear left at Y-intersection. Turn left on Merrill Creek Rd.
Passaic	505	Concrete ramp	9.9 horsepower limit	No	East of the town of West Milford, take Rt. 513 (Marshall Hill Rd.) to Greenwood Lake Turnpike (Rt. 511).
Salem	95	Concrete ramp	Electric motors only	No	Rt. 55 to Exit 35/Garden Rd. (Follow signs for Parvin State Park). Turn left on Parvins Mill Rd. Go through blinking light. See ramp on right.
Hunterdon	2350	Concrete ramp	9.9 horsepower limit	No	Rt. 22 to Round Valley Access Rd. Turn left onto Rt. 629. Boat launch on the right. Additional access located within the Round Valley Recreation Area, located app. 1/2 mile further south off Round Valley Access Rd.
Salem	250	Concrete ramp located on Rt. 540; construction completion by spring 2007	Unlimited horsepower Use caution when navigating due to shallow waters.	No	From the east, follow Rt. 40 west. See ramp on left immediately after crossing small bridge over creek.
Hunterdon	1290	Concrete ramp Boat livery; open seasonally.	9.9 horsepower limit	Memorial Day to Labor Day	Rt. 78 to Rt. 31 north. Turn left onto Van Syckle's Rd. Recreation Area entrance located approx. 1 mile on left.
Sussex	494	Concrete ramp	Electric motors only	No	Take Rt. 94 to Rt. 610 or Rt. 622, which both lead to Swartswood's East Shore Dr. Ramp and park entrance off East Shore Drive
Cumberland	898	Concrete ramp	9.9 horsepower limit	No	Rt. 55 to Rt. 49 West to Carmel Ave. Turn right into parking lot.