



Skillful Angler Awards Program

The Skillful Angler Awards Program is designed to supplement the New Jersey Record Fish Program. It is comprised of three categories: 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. All photo entries become property of the Division of Fish and Wildlife and will not be returned.

The Skillful Angler Awards program acknowledges 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. The program is 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.

Anglers qualifying for a Skillful Angler award receive a certificate and a bronze pin to adorn their fishing hat or jacket. Only one pin and certificate per species regardless of category will be awarded annually to each participant, but an angler may submit applications for larger fish caught even after receiving a pin.

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 receives a special commemorative gift recognizing his or her accomplishment 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 Adult/Junior categories, fish must be weighed and measured by fishing license agents, tackle shops or authorized Fish and Wildlife fisheries biologists.

Minimum requirements for each freshwater species:

	Adult Weight (lbs., oz.)	Junior Weight (lbs., oz.)	Catch and Release (inches)
Largemouth bass	6	4	21"
Smallmouth bass	4	3	19"
Striped bass hybrid	8	6	24"
Striped bass	30	25	40"
Bullhead	2	1 lb., 8 oz	14"
Carp	25	20	35"
Channel catfish.	10	8	29"
Crappie	2	1 lb., 8 oz	14"
Muskellunge	20	15	40"
Yellow perch	1 lb., 8 oz.	1	13"
Chain pickerel	4	3	24"
Northern pike	10	8	34"
American shad	7	5	24"
Brook trout	3	2	19"
Brown trout	8	5	25"
Lake trout	12	8	31"
Rainbow trout	5	3 lbs., 8 oz.	23"
Sunfish	1	12 oz.	9"
Walleye	6	4 lbs., 8 oz.	24"

Note: The New Jersey State Record Fish Program requires a separate application and is based on weight alone. Scale certification documentation and a weighmaster's signature are necessary. Other rules apply. Visit Fish and Wildlife's Web site at www.njfishandwildlife.com for a complete list of current state records.

New Jersey Skillful Angler Application

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Telephone Number (_____) _____

Entry Category (check only one):

- Adult Junior (16 years and under)
 Catch and Release (Qualification based on length)

Fish Species (Angler must complete. Subject to verification by a state biologist.)

Weight _____ lb.(s), _____ oz. **Length** _____ in. **Girth** _____ in.

Date Caught* ____/____/____ **Time** _____

Location _____

Caught from (check only one):

- Boat Shore Surf Jetty
 Other (specify) _____

Line Test Used _____ **Reel Type** _____

Rod Type _____ **Lure/Bait** _____

Certification for Adult and Junior Categories
Name of establishment where fish was measured and weighed

Telephone Number _____

Weighmaster's Name _____

Weighmaster's Signature _____

I certify: 1.) this fish was caught in New Jersey waters in accordance with state laws and regulations; 2.) the entry was weighed on a certified scale (for Adult and Junior categories only).

Applicant's Signature _____ **Date** _____

* Applications and photo must be submitted **within 30 days** of catching the fish. Applications for fish caught in December will be accepted only until January 31.

Mail to:

NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife
 Skillful Angler Awards Program
 P.O. Box 400
 Trenton, NJ 08625-0400

New Jersey State Record Freshwater Sport Fish

The Record Fish Program honors the largest species of fish caught in New Jersey. It revolves around a specific list of eligible freshwater and saltwater species, and is based on weight alone; there are no line classes. Scale certification documentation, specifically the Certificate of Inspection/Test Report and Registration Certificate issued by the New Jersey Office of Weights and Measures as well as a weighmaster's signature are necessary. Other rules apply.

The Record Fish Program now accepts 103 species: 31 freshwater, 72 saltwater. The objective of this program is to increase awareness of fishing opportunities for species that are regularly sought and routinely found in or off the New Jersey coast.

For more information, an application or a complete list of state record fish, visit New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's Web site at www.NJFishandWildlife.com.

SPECIES	LBS.	OZ.	YEAR	ANGLER	WHERE CAUGHT
Bass, largemouth	10	14	1980	Robert Eisele	Menantico Sand Wash Pond
Bass, rock	1	5	1982	Eric Avogardo	Saddle River
Bass, smallmouth	7	2	1990	Carol Marciniak	Round Valley Reservoir
Bluegill	3	0	1990	Dom Santarelli	Farm Pond in Pennington
Bowfin	8	4	1988	Craig Raffay	Lake Tranquility
Bullhead, brown	4	8	1997	Gary Schmidt	Lake of Woods, Ft. Dix
Carp	47	0	1995	Billy Friedman	South Branch of Raritan River
Carp (archery)	42	1	1987	John Puchalik	Delaware River
Carp, grass	50	0	2001	Steve Babilino	Garrison Lake
Carp, grass (archery)	59	12	2006	Mark Kronyak	Delaware River
Catfish, channel	33	3	1978	Howard Hudson	Lake Hopatcong
Catfish, white	14	4	2004	Timothy Jasko	Dallenbach Pond
Crappie, black	4	8	1996	Andy Tintle	Pompton Lake
Crappie, white	2	14	2005	Dean Montemore	Mill Pond
Eel, American	6	13	2005	David J. Payne	Round Valley Reservoir
Muskellunge	42	13	1997	Bob Neals	Monksville Reservoir
Muskie, tiger	29	0	1990	Larry Migliarese	Delaware River
Perch, white**	3	1	1989	Edward Tango	Forest Hill Lake
Perch, yellow	2	6	1989	Gene Engels	Holiday Lake
Perch, yellow*	4	4	1865	Charles Abbott	Crosswicks Creek
Pickereel, chain	9	3	1957	Frank McGovern	Lower Aetna Lake
Pickereel, redfin	1	13	1982	Gerald Humphrey	Lake Assunpink
Pike, Northern	30	2	1977	Herb Hepler	Spruce Run Reservoir
Salmon (landlocked)	8	0	1951	John Mount	Lake Aeroflex (formerly New Wawayanda)
Shad, American	11	1	1984	Charles Mower	Delaware River
Striped Bass	51	0	2002	John Christian	Great Egg Harbor River
Striped Bass, hybrid	16	4	1999	Bill Schmidt	Culvers Lake
Sunfish, pumpkinseed	1	8	1987	Daryl Donalson	Farm Pond in Burlington County
Trout, brook	7	3	1995	Andrew DuJack	Rockaway River
Trout, brown	21	6	1995	Lenny Saccente	Round Valley Reservoir
Trout, lake	32	8	2002	Greg Young	Round Valley Reservoir
Trout, rainbow	13	0	1988	Gene Rutkoski	Lake Hopatcong
Trout, sea run brown				**Vacant** (Minimum Weight 5 Lbs.)	
Walleye	13	9	1993	George Fundell	Delaware River

* Denotes historical record

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

Stop the Spread of Invasive species!

Invasive Fish Species such as Northern snakeheads, flathead catfish, koi or goldfish must not be stocked or returned to the water! If you catch a northern snakehead or flathead catfish immediately call Fish and Wildlife at (908) 236-2118.

Snakehead—INVASIVE (Do NOT Release!)

Note long anal fin.



Bowfin—NATIVE (OK to Release!)

Note short anal fin.



Flathead Catfish (Do NOT Release!)



Must have all three characteristics:

- 1) Upper white lobe on caudal fin,
- 2) Protruding lower jaw,
- 3) Tail NOT deeply forked

It is illegal to transport any fish, including game species, from one water-body to another. It is illegal to stock any fish in New Jersey without a Permit!



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 two 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 mollusk 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 (several if possible) with you 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

Health Advisory

For Eating Fish And Crabs Caught In New Jersey Waters

Fish Smart — Eat Smart



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 have been found in certain fish and crabs in some New Jersey waters, and fish consumption advisories have been adopted to guide citizens on safe consumption practices.

The current list of fish consumption advisories consists of statewide, regional and waterbody-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 literature to help you make informed choices about which fish to eat and how to reduce your exposure to these harmful chemicals. The *Fish Smart-Eat Smart* Fish Advisory Guide includes contaminant information, advisory charts plus preparation and cooking methods to reduce contaminant levels, as well as specific guidelines, advice and prohibitions for people at high risk, such as children, pregnant women and women of child-bearing age. The *Fish Smart-Eat Smart* Fish Advisory Guide also includes Web site links to Pennsylvania, Delaware and New York for information about fish consumption advisories for shared waters.

Check online for fish consumption advisories on the local water body in which you fish! Go to www.state.nj.us/dep/dsr

The *Fish Smart-Eat Smart* Fish Advisory Web site now includes a Geographic Information System (GIS) map linked to current fish consumption advisories statewide. For example, to see the latest

mercury or PCB advisories for your area, just select the county by clicking on the map. The page will show the water body location, fish species and any advisories that apply. This new Web site feature makes it easy to find current fish consumption advisories for the specific water body in which you fish.

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 Web site www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org when making decisions about eating recreationally caught fish and crabs.

The fish consumption advisories, *Fish Smart-Eat Smart* Fish Advisory Guide and *Fish Smart-Eat Smart* Fish Advisory Web site are each updated periodically and are available in print or online through these agencies:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Public Access Center

(609) 777-DEP4 or www.state.nj.us/dep

Division of Science, Research and Technology

(609) 984-6070 or www.state.nj.us/dep/dsr

Division of Fish and Wildlife

(609) 748-2020 or www.njfishandwildlife.com

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services

Consumer and Environmental Health

(609) 588-3123 or (609) 777-3373

www.state.nj.us/health/eoh/foodweb/fishguid.htm

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Fish and Wildlife's Hunter Education Unit wants New Jersey's best sportsmen and sportswomen to become instructors utilizing our exciting home study and field course format. A minimum of six weekend days each year are required.

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Division of Fish and Wildlife

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June 9 and 10, 2007

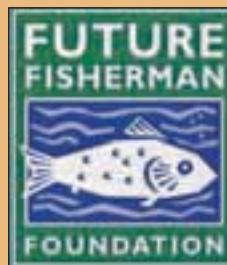


On these two days, residents and non-residents may fish New Jersey's public fresh waters without a license or trout stamp. All other regulations, including size and daily catch limits, remain in effect.

Grants available to help teachers get fishing education into their curriculum

Health and physical education teachers can receive up to \$5,000 to establish a fishing and/or boating program in their schools. The grant is open to all K12 health and physical education teachers who are members of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Deadline for application is March 7, 2007

For more information on the physical-education grants, visit the Future Fisherman Foundation at www.futurefisherman.org/pegrant. To learn more about fishing opportunities for students, contact Jessica Griglak of New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife at (908) 874-125 or visit www.NJFishandWildlife.com.



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Special Interest to Anglers DEP Publications

www.NJFishandWildlife.com

Item	Cost	Web site	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 Reptiles & Amphibians of NJ—book	\$10	no	4
Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians of NJ—CD	\$10	no	4
Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians of NJ—book/CD set	\$18	no	4
Fish Consumption Advisory PCB/Mercury	free	yes	1
Lake Survey Maps—specify waterbody	free	yes	1
Large Format Freshwater Fishing Digest	free	no	1
Licenses by Mail—Non-Resident & Resident		yes	1
List of Fishing Guides	free	yes	1
Manasquan River Fishing Access Areas	free	yes	1
Motor Vehicle Boat Regulations	free	no	1
Places to Fish (ponds, lakes, reservoirs, rivers and streams)	free	yes	1
Record NJ Fish	free	yes	1
Skillful Angler Awards Program—brochure w/ application	free	yes	1
State Parks & Forests Maps	free	no	3
USGS Topographic Maps	\$10	no	2
Visually Impaired—Free Fishing License application-	free	no	1
Warmwater & Coolwater Stocking List	free	yes	1
Wildlife Management Area Maps—Specify name of WMA	free	yes	1
Wildlife Viewing Guide—book	\$15	no	4

- 1 NJ Div. Of Fish and Wildlife, PO Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625
Tel. (609) 292-2965
- 2 NJ DEP, Maps & Publications, Bureau of Revenue,
PO Box 438, Trenton, NJ 08625 Tel. (609) 777-1038
- 3 DEP, Div. Parks & Forestry, PO Box 404, Trenton, NJ 08625
Tel. (800) 843-6420 Specify name of park.
- 4 NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife, PO Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400
Make check payable to Conserve Wildlife Foundation.

Please write item requested on the outside of envelope.

Get on the Lists

The Freshwater Fisheries e-mail list, that is. This free service provides the latest information about Fish and Wildlife events, public hearings and other matters related to our freshwater fishing resources. And we have six other lists so you can maximize your enjoyment of New Jersey's fish and wildlife resources. Sign up today at www.NJFishandWildlife.com/lstsubm.htm.

New Jersey's Accessible Fishing Sites for People With Disabilities

Visit www.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.

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Address _____

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E-mail _____

Mail form to:
Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ
PO Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400

Membership questions? Call (609) 292-3707
Or join online at www.ConserveWildlifeNJ.org

NJ FISH ART AND WRITING CONTEST

Kids Can Let Their Creativity Go Wild in NJ Fish Art & Writing Contest

New Jersey students in grades four through eight are invited to enter New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's 2006 Fish Art and Writing Contest to win special prizes, including a chance to go fishing at the Pequest Trout Hatchery & Natural Resource Education Center on opening day of trout season.

Contestants will create an original drawing or painting of a fish found in New Jersey, depicted in its natural habitat. The artwork may be acrylic, watercolor, oil, oil pastel, crayon or ink. Finished size should be approximately eight inches by 10 inches.

Entries must be postmarked by **Friday, March 10, 2006**. All entries become the property of Fish and Wildlife and cannot be returned.

This art and writing contest is based on the Aquatic WILD activity "Fishy Who's Who," designed for grades five through eight. For details and a full description of this educational activity, visit Fish and Wildlife's Web site: www.njfishandwildlife.com. This activity helps teachers meet the following New Jersey Science Standards:

5.5 Life Science
Grade 4: A1, A2
Grade 6: C1
Grade 8: B1, B2

5.10 Environmental Studies
Grade 6: A1, B1



Sixth grader Eric Kang of Mount Pleasant Middle School took first place in his category.



New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc.

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- **PROMOTE CONSERVATION OF NEW JERSEY'S NATURAL RESOURCES**

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It's a coalition of hunters, anglers, trappers, recreational shooters and others who have an interest in enjoying—and preserving—the great outdoor opportunities available in New Jersey.

It's an alliance that includes individual sportsmen, local fishing/hunting clubs, statewide groups and chapters of large, well-known sportsmen/conservation organizations.

The members of the Federation have an official say in all policies, recommendations and proposals that the Federation advances.

The members of the Federation have a direct impact on fish and wildlife policies of New Jersey. By LAW the Federation fills six of the 11 seats on the Fish and Game Council.

Visit us at www.NJSFSC.org

The Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) in the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is the state agency charged with managing all fish, game and wildlife programs in the state. The NJ Fish and Game Council was created by law and empowered to adopt the Fish and Game Code and advise the DEP Commissioner and the DFW on the management of fish, wildlife and habitat. Sportsmen appointees enact wildlife-related law and influence wildlife policy. Each of the Fish and Game Council members selected by the Federation maintains close contact with us to keep us informed and to understand our positions on various issues.

Involvement from interested sportsmen—JUST LIKE YOU—has made a real difference, and will continue to do so.

If you care about

- Wise management of fish and wildlife populations
- Protection and enhancement of our natural lands and waters
- Preservation of our traditional outdoor sports

If you want to

- Meet others who share similar interests
- Keep informed on current issues affecting NJ sportsmen
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MISSION STATEMENT

"Muskie, Inc. is an active, service-oriented, non-profit organization with the single focus of improving the sport of muskie fishing for men, woman and children.

Our mission is to unite all muskie fishing interests for the promotion and protection of a high quality muskellunge sport fishery in New Jersey.

We are committed to the abatement of water pollution; maintenance of records for muskie habits, growth, range and the dissemination of muskie information to everyone."