



# New Jersey's Warmwater **Stocking** Program

## **Muskellunge (6 – 8")**

- Carnegie Lake (500)
- Cooper River Park Lake (400)
- Deal Lake (560)
- Delaware River (4,525)
- D & R Canal - 10 mile (200)
- Echo Lake Reservoir (800)
- Furnace Lake (263)
- Greenwood Lake (4,066)
- Lake Hopatcong (2,650)
- Lake Shenandoah (250)
- Little Swartswood Lake (400)
- Manasquan Reservoir (1,560)
- Mercer Lake (700)
- Monksville Reservoir (440)
- Mountain Lake (330)

## **Northern Pike (6")**

- Budd Lake (2,750)
- Cranberry Lake (2,600)
- Farrington Lake (3,500)
- Millstone River (2,800)
- Passaic River (5,600)
- Pompton Lake (3,660)
- Pompton River (2,400)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (10,500)

## **Walleye (2 – 4")**

- Canistear Reservoir (26,110)
- Delaware River (105,000)
- Greenwood Lake (47,900)
- Lake Hopatcong (131,780)
- Monksville Reservoir (10,150)
- Swartswood Lake (10,250)

## **Hybrid Striped Bass (4")**

- Lake Hopatcong (25,380)
- Manasquan Reservoir (7,284)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (13,095)

## **Smallmouth Bass (2")**

- Manasquan Reservoir (11,000)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (13,000)
- Union Lake (3,000)

## **Lake Trout (8.5")**

- Merrill Creek Reservoir (3,400)
- Monksville Reservoir (2,047)

And thousands of channel catfish, black crappie, bluegill sunfish and brown bullheads stocked in over 100 waterbodies located throughout the state!

**Compliments of the Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery!**



# New Jersey's Trout Stocking Program

## Spring Stocking

- Over 570,000 brook, brown and rainbow trout
- Average size: 10.5 inch and ½ pound
- An additional 6,000 breeders 15 to 21 inches (3 - 6 pounds)
- Most waterbodies stocked at least three times
- 100 streams and 80 lakes stocked statewide
- All 21 counties stocked
- 180,000 trout released for Opening Day - April 5, 2008
- Stocking continues for seven weeks following Opening Day

## Fall Stocking

- First two weeks in October
- All large, two year old trout, measuring 14 to 16 inches
- 20,000 trout stocked
- 30 streams, lakes & ponds
- 1,000 Rainbow trout breeders, averaging 20 inches
- Best chance to catch big trout

## Winter Stocking

- Third week of November
- All large two year olds, measuring 15 to 16 inches
- Over 5,000 trout
- 24 lakes and ponds
- Great fishing all winter long!

## Sea Run Brown Trout

- Lower Manasquan River
- 15,000 7 - 8-inch brown trout
- Try this elusive fishery!

Compliments of New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's Pequest State Fish Hatchery



# CleanwaterNJ Campaign

## Anglers as Environmentalists

By Bruce Friedman, Supervisor  
Division of Water Quality, Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control

# When you are sitting at your favorite fishing spot or in your boat on the water, have you ever taken a look around – a *really* good look?

**Unfortunately in some areas**, you're going to see trash - water bottles, food wrappers, newspapers, containers, beer cans, cigarette butts, plus worm containers, fishing tackle packaging and monofilament. What were those people thinking? Trash and litter have become a real problem, a problem that impacts us all.

Environmentally, trash negatively affects the habitat and wildlife that most outdoors people strive to protect. Many can recall a scene from the 1975 movie thriller *Jaws* when Sheriff Brody and Matt Hooper eviscerate a tiger shark and pull out trash from its digestive tract.

It's a shame that for many New Jersey waterbodies, trash is not just movie fiction. Various marine mammals and larger predatory fish eat free-floating trash and debris, mistaking it for their normal prey. Many of these animals die from impacted digestive tracts, or they stop feeding and die from starvation.

Take another look at the water surface where you fish, particularly in lakes and ponds. You may notice an abundance of algae and aquatic plant life. While some of this is natural, too much plant growth can kill off fish through a process, eutrophication, which results in decaying vegetation and low dissolved oxygen levels in the water. In such lakes and ponds, an overabundance of algae and plant life can be caused by nutrients that originate from over-fertilizing – or improperly fertilizing – our lawns and gardens.

So what can you do that will make a difference? The first step is essential: you must respect the environment and convey that respect to your family. This means you don't litter, and you teach your children not to litter. Wherever you go, carry out what you carry in. Leave nothing behind and be sure the woods, stream or lake shore looks like no one was ever there. Take an extra moment to clean up after others. Pick up that paper blowing down the street, take a few bottles out of the woods and recycle them at home.

You can get involved and participate, even just for a few hours. Sign up your family for a litter march or beach clean-up walk. Encourage your business, organization or sportsman club to "Adopt a Highway."

In your own backyard, be sure to read and follow the directions on every fertilizer bag before application and don't apply just before a rainfall. Make sure that your fertilizer spreader does not overspray onto

driveways and sidewalks. If it does, brush or blow it back onto your lawn to prevent fertilizer run off into storm sewers when it rains, ultimately affecting water quality elsewhere.

As outdoorsmen and outdoorswomen, we must each do our part to conserve the natural resources we value. The degree of involvement is up to you, whether you're very active or you just do something simple like picking up a piece of litter.

We all want to see good stewardship of the natural lands and waters we enjoy when hunting, fishing, hiking and more. The wildlife we seek are dependent on the health of the ecosystem in which they live. Without clean and plentiful water, there would be no healthy populations of fish, game or shellfish to pursue. Keep our waters clean.

For more information on stormwater and nonpoint pollution visit [www.cleanwaternj.org](http://www.cleanwaternj.org).



BY BOB PAPSON, PRINCIPAL FISHERIES BIOLOGIST

# BE A RESPONSIBLE ANGLER



In recent years several fish pathogens (disease-causing microbes) have been detected and have spread through several regions of the United States and Canada causing fish kills and presenting major concerns for both fisheries agencies and anglers. Outbreaks of Viral Hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS), and Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPN) have appeared in neighboring states. In 2006, Largemouth Bass Virus (LMBV) was found in New Jersey's Lake Hopatcong, and in 2007, was detected in Greenwood Lake, Assunpink Lake, Union Lake, Swartswood Lake, Cooper River Park Lake, Farrington Lake and Spruce Run Reservoir.

Fortunately, these viruses pose no human health risk, but they do pose a significant risk to fishery resources.

## Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS)

Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia is a serious pathogen of fresh and saltwater fish now causing an emerging disease in the Great Lakes region of the United States and Canada. This virus has the potential to have serious regional consequences in the northeast. VHS can cause hemorrhaging of fish tissue, including internal organs, and can cause the death of infected fish. Once a fish is infected with VHS, there is no known cure.

Perhaps the most alarming concern with VHS is that it knows no immune species or habitat boundaries, as it has been confirmed in 19 coolwater and five coldwater species. The virus is implicated in kills of many of the most popular game fish species such as muskellunge, walleye, smallmouth bass, crappie and bluegills while other game fish have been identified as carriers such as northern pike, chinook salmon, steelhead, lake trout and channel catfish.

Sport fishing on the Great Lakes is a multi-billion dollar industry. The potential economic impact of the virus on this fishery is currently unknown. Ecologically, the impacts of VHS are equally uncertain. This virus has the potential to alter the delicate predator-prey relationships. Both predators (like muskellunge) and prey species (such as perch and crappie) are equally at risk.

**THE POTENTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE VIRUS ON THIS FISHERY IS CURRENTLY UNKNOWNABLE. ECOLOGICALLY, THE IMPACTS OF VHS ARE EQUALLY UNCERTAIN.**

Clinical signs of VHS may include tissue hemorrhaging (bleeding), unusual behavior, anemia, bulging eyes, bloated abdomens, and the rapid onset of death; however, these symptoms could apply to numerous fish diseases. There is no clear visual diagnostic symptom to confirm VHS. Additionally, not all infected fish

show signs; however, these fish may become carriers of the disease. The only way to confirm VHS is to test the fish in a laboratory.

## Largemouth Bass Virus (LMBV)

Largemouth Bass Virus (LMBV) first gained attention in 1995 when it was implicated in a fish kill on Santee Cooper Reservoir, South Carolina. Other large fish kills have been reported in the late 1990s and first years of this century, mostly in the southeastern United States. Since then, research and monitoring has shown the virus reaching the southeast, Midwest and northeast states. Reports from the Northeast Black Bass Technical Committee (2006) documented that LMBV has been detected in seven of ten northeast states where testing has occurred.

Thus far, Largemouth Bass Virus-related kills appear to be minor compared with kills from other causes. These smaller kills still received considerable attention

because largemouth bass is the nation's most popular game fish.

Fisheries scientists around the country are studying the virus and its impact on the resource. More research is needed to determine if LMBV will have long-lasting effects on bass populations. Numerous incidents across the country show LMBV does not cause long-term harm to fisheries. Anglers reported catching fewer bass following some kills (especially larger fish), there is evidence that an infected fishery will recover within a year or two.

However, recent research in Alabama has shown that where the virus was known to exist but has not caused a fish kill, the waterbody experienced a significant decline in the abundance of largemouth bass. The same research noted sub-lethal effects on largemouth bass that include reduced condition factors and growth rates.

LMBV is not limited to infecting only largemouth bass; it has been found in other centrarchids, all members of the sunfish family. However, the virus usually causes death only in largemouth bass. It is believed that stress triggers the disease manifestation of the virus; recall that LMBV-infected fish may show no sign of disease until stressed. Stressful factors include hot weather, poor water quality, pollution, crowding in livewell tanks, frequent handling by anglers, and other pathogens. Besides fish, LMBV has been found in other cold-blooded animals like amphibians and reptiles.

Scientists suggest that LMBV will become an enduring element in certain aquatic ecosystems and a regular component in natural selection of affected species.

### Other Diseases

There are eight major pathogens considered to be especially problematic to both wild and cultured fish populations. In addition to VHS and LMBV, these pathogens include: Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis

(IHN), Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPN), Bacterial Kidney Disease (BKD), Bacterial Furunculosis (BF), and Bacterial Redmouth (BRM) and Whirling Disease (*Myxobolus cerebralis*).

### Fish and Wildlife Monitoring Program

During the summer of 2007, New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife collected a minimum of 20 largemouth bass for disease testing from 12 waterbodies statewide. These included waters with major largemouth bass fisheries which attract boat anglers who fish throughout the state – as well as out-of-state – including at tournaments and on waters with lesser bass angling activity. This sampling will provide a good cross-section from which to determine the distribution of LMBV and possibly the presence of VHS in New Jersey.

Fish were processed at the Lebanon Fisheries Field Office laboratory; samples were sent to the Lamar Fish Health Center for testing. Additional sampling is planned for 2008.

### Spreading Disease

Viruses and bacterium which cause these diseases can be transferred in a variety of ways. The movement of fish from one waterbody to another poses a serious risk for disease spread. These transfers also may be through importation, fish stocking or baitfish use. Disease can be transferred by fish-to-fish contact, such as in live wells or bait buckets, or by predatory fish consuming infected prey. Other potential avenues for spreading aquatic pathogens are natural fish movement, recreational boating, birds, ballast water discharge and even sampling activities. Some viruses can survive in water (without a host) for up to seven days, and can be transferred via boat live wells, trailers and waders.

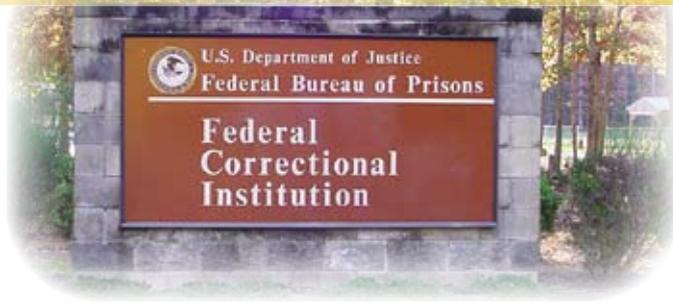
## Anglers' Role

Angler and boater cooperation is critical to minimizing the potential for the spread of fish disease and other aquatic invasive species by taking the following steps:

- Do not move fish or fish parts from one body of water to another.
- Do not release live bait into any water body.
- Switch to rubber-soled boots instead of felt
- Remove all mud, aquatic plants and animals from all gear, boats, motors and trailers before leaving a body of water.
- Drain your live well, bilge and bait tanks before leaving the water you are fishing or boating on.
- Thoroughly clean and dry livewells, boats, trailers and other equipment between fishing trips. A light bleach solution is an excellent disinfectant for cleaning equipment (1 cup for 10 gallon of water). A good treatment for livewells is a ¼ cup of chlorine bleach per gallon of water. Make sure the contact time with bleach is at least 5 minutes (In a waterbody known to contain VHS, clean and disinfect live wells and bait wells with a 10 percent chlorine/water solution). Rinse well to remove all residual chlorine.
- After cleaning, allow boats, trailers and other equipment to fully dry for four to six hours in the sun.
- Handle fish as gently as possible if you intend to release them.
- Refrain from hauling fish for long period in live wells if you intend to release them.
- Stage weigh-in tournaments during cooler weather, so fish caught will not be so stressed. Utilize "paper" tournaments during hot weather, with anglers measuring and immediately releasing them.

# Fairton's *Fin-tastic* Facility

Ron Jacobsen, Fisheries Technician



**H**umming pumps can be heard in the background. Pipes appear to travel in every direction, carrying the essential water supply – around the clock – to the four, 500-gallon tanks occupying a large corner of the room. Thousands of sunfish and *Gambusia* (mosquitofish) swim back and forth awaiting their next meal from the overhead feeders. From all angles this looks like a state fish hatchery. Who would guess this fish-rearing facility is a federal prison?

Located in the heart of Cumberland County lies the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) – Fairton and within its gates an intensive aquaculture facility. Each year since 1999, in coordination with the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Hackettstown Hatchery, FCI Fairton raises 3,000 channel catfish, largemouth bass, sunfish and *Gambusia*. The catfish, bass and sunfish are stocked in local waters for youth fishing derby programs, while the *Gambusia* are utilized as non-chemical, biological mosquito control support, particularly in South Jersey.

Raising fish at the prison was the innovation of Jake Jablonski, vocational training instructor at FCI Fairton for 18 years. Developing such a program matched with the Millville resident's outdoor sporting pursuits of hunting and fishing. Mr. Jablonski wrote the proposal to obtain a federal grant for developing a vocational fish aquaculture project at a correctional institution. Once the grant was secured, Mr. Jablonski created a curriculum and textbook for the aquaculture course.

Aquaculture classes were taught to FCI Fairton inmates by Kurt Powers (retired), then Supervising Biologist for the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries Fish Culture Unit. Powers also helped design the initial aquaculture system at the prison. Although early experiments with trout were not entirely successful, they provided valuable knowledge for the current efforts rearing *Gambusia* and sunfish.

In recent years, an outdoor aquaculture system was added to the facility, consisting of four 2,000-gallon tanks. These tanks – constructed from galvanized corrugated culvert pipes measuring 12 feet across by 5 ½ feet deep – have greatly expanded the rearing capabilities to the current level of producing 3,000 fish. The FCI Fairton aquaculture program allows Fish and Wildlife to carry out stocking programs in southern portions of the state, an area less easily served by New Jersey's only warmwater hatchery located 2½ hours north in Hackettstown.

Mr. Jablonski's involvement in the aquaculture and horticulture vocational training programs at FCI Fairton are ongoing "works of passion" that yield real benefits to society. Inmates participating in the programs can earn a full apprenticeship in their chosen vocation, increasing their employment marketability upon release from prison.

If running a full-scale aquaculture facility isn't enough, Mr. Jablonski's other endeavors at FCI Fairton include horticulture and landscape courses where they constructed a small pond. Last spring, five mature largemouth bass spawned naturally in the pond and produced approximately 1,000 fingerlings. The fingerlings will be grown to a larger size and used at future youth fishing derby events.

At the other end of the spectrum, Mr. Jablonski sees the result of his efforts first hand when he volunteers to transport and stock Fairton-raised fish into local lakes and ponds in Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem counties at youth fishing derbies. Mr. Jablonski enthusiastically provides an educational presentation at each event and helps children become successful anglers.

The partnership between the Federal Correctional Institution – Fairton and New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has been mutually beneficial. Interested inmates get involved in a constructive, educational and rewarding activity, while New Jersey anglers benefit from enhanced recreational opportunities.



# Teen Anglers

**First Annual Hackettstown  
Teen Anglers Youth Day - June 28, 2008**



**5th Annual Pequest  
Teen Anglers Youth Day - July 26, 2008**



**The 2008 National Teen Angler Challenge:**

This spring and early summer, submit the weight of fish you've caught to enter the National Teen Angler Challenge. Teen Angler staff will determine the winners in each fish category (trout, bass, musky, etc.) for all participating states. Winners will have a guest spot on the Teen Anglers TV, program featuring winning teens from

each participating state. Go to <http://www.teenanglers.org/> to register and for more details!



**New Jersey Teen Angler Chapters:**

**Garfield New Jersey**  
John Nasuta  
phantombuckusa@optonline.net

**Millville and Cape May**  
Court House  
Frank Breakell  
(609) 425-9401

**Northwest New Jersey**  
James Newquist  
14 Tinc Rd.  
Flanders, NJ 07836  
papanuke@verizon.net  
(973) 584-4576

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Photo Courtesy of Tibor Nemeth Photography, 2008 Simms Fishing products



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



**Then get involved!**

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- 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, and more!



**Membership:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 Includes monthly newspaper, membership decal and \$1 million excess liability insurance  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Monthly newspaper only



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Send with your check or money order to: NJSFSC \* PO Box 10173 \* Trenton, NJ 08650

**Join online at [www.njsfsc.org](http://www.njsfsc.org)**

Wildlife Collage by Irene Bowers

## Daiwa MEGAFORCE® Baitcaster

The new Megaforce® baitcasters offer smooth, dependable performance, blazing fast 7:1 retrieve and the bass-enticing advantages of Daiwa's exclusive Twitchin' Bar™ – all at a price any angler can afford.

When bass prefer a slower, finesse-type presentation, use the Twitchin' Bar feature to impart a subtle twitching motion to a jig or plastic worm with a simple push of the thumb. The resulting action works a lure slowly and methodically around underwater structure, invoking an aggressive response from even finicky bass. A single push on the Twitchin' Bar also lets you pick up seven inches of slack line instantly with just one hand – no cranking necessary. When the fish are more active, you can employ the Megaforce Baitcaster's speedy 7.1:1 gear ratio to cover water quickly and effectively with a variety of reaction baits.

For more information, check out Daiwa's website: [www.daiwa.com](http://www.daiwa.com)



## Wild Water Fly Fishing



Wild Water's complete starter package is ideal for anyone that wants to get started in fly fishing without investing a lot of money. The starter package features a high quality 5wt rod and reel combo. The reel comes to you with backing, floating line, leader and tippet installed. This package also comes with a fly box and 3 common fly patterns—Parachute Adams, a Black Ant and a Hare's Ear Nymph. This package is the ultimate value in fly fishing packages for \$108.90, with a Lifetime Warranty.

For more information on Wild Water Fly Fishing visit the website at [www.wildwaterflyfishing.com](http://www.wildwaterflyfishing.com) or call 315.237.1077.

## Quantum Tour Edition PTi

New for 2008, the Tour Edition PTi spinning reel series marks a new level in high performance spinning technology. Combined with a new lightweight skeletal titanium handle and 12 PT hybrid polymer-stainless steel bearings, no other spinning reel comes close to the performance this reel offers. Add the scratch-resistant titanium vacuum deposition coating and a re-designed LMS line management system, and not only do you have the best performing reel on the market, but the best looking as well. For more information check out Quantum's website: [www.quantumfishing.com](http://www.quantumfishing.com)



## G.Loomis 'Xperience' Fly Rods

New for '08 - If you're new to fly fishing, looking for an addition as a back-up, or need a specific size for a unique situation or occasional trip, G.Loomis now offers its new Xperience fly rod series with models to handle just about any kind of fresh and saltwater action. The series includes 10 rods in a three-weight size up to twelve weight, and retail from \$265 to \$345.

"We set a goal to provide the best we could in terms of blank materials, guides a new reel seat design and top-grade cork handles," said Gary Schaefer with G.Loomis' product development staff, "while keeping them at a price that would appeal to beginner and novice anglers, and also for those fly fishing enthusiast looking for special extra rod that's easy on the wallet."

For more information on G.Loomis' new Xperience fly rod, and the name of the dealer nearest you, visit the G.Loomis web site [www.gloomis.com](http://www.gloomis.com)



### Grasshopper Outdoor products, Ltd of New York introduces the monoMASTER™



What lasts longer, Empires, buildings or monofilament? Monofilament, probably. It lasts up to 600 years!

This lightweight and easy to use device takes all worry out of waste mono disposal. Attach it to your fishing vest or

drop it into your tackle box. Use it each time you generate a tag end while changing flies and lures or if you get a whole tangled birds-nest or busted up leader. The monoMASTER stores anything from an inch to several feet and has a capacity for a season's worth of waste monofilament. When it's full, empty the waste into a trash can and you're good to go.

The monoMASTER has received an official endorsement from the Federation of Fly Fishers and will be available in stores and in the Orvis supplement catalog in May 2008. Can't wait? You can order your monoMASTER right now for \$9.99 by visiting [www.grasshopperproducts.com](http://www.grasshopperproducts.com)

### Woo Dave's Signature Series

The Woo Dave's Signature Series have been carrying on a tradition for over 6 years. Even though some of the original shoes are still being sold by retailers today, the major part of the line has been updated and improved.



The shoes are lighter, more comfortable and more functional than ever. The uppers feature water-resistant Nubuc leather for durability, with aerospace® mesh for breathability. A new removable, superior polyurethane orthotic insert is added for uncompromised comfort.

The entire line has been made extremely flexible and when a Vibram slip-resistant outsole is added, there is nothing better in the Marine-Casual footwear category.

Find out more at [www.prolineboots.com](http://www.prolineboots.com)

### Orvis Frequent Flyer® Travel Rods

If a newspaper can fit in your carryon, so can these rods. Frequent Flyer® rods are built to The Orvis Company's exact taper designs, component, and production specifications; every step of the overseas production is supervised by Orvis. Each rod is subject to the same rigorous inspection in Vermont as any Orvis rod. Take a Frequent Flyer Fly Rod on your next fly fishing trip!

Frequent Flyer® Fly Rods feature: Packable 7 piece fly rod design, 16" - 17.75" collapsed, Aluminum oxide guides and hard chrome tip top, Alignment dots for easy assembly, and AA grade cork. Freshwater Rods feature a silver anodized aluminum reel seat with dark green woven graphite spacer while the saltwater rods feature a black hard anodized aluminum reel seat.

Both come complete with a Cordura-covered fly rod case with sleeve dividers.

Frequent Flyer® rods are guaranteed for life against defects in material or workmanship.

See more at [www.ORVIS.COM](http://www.ORVIS.COM)



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# 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](http://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  
Pequest Natural Resource Education Center  
605 Pequest Rd.  
Oxford, NJ 07863

# 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](http://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, pumpkin-seed	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 waterbody 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 !

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Note the date and precise location where the mussel or its shell was found.

### How to Identify It

- ❖ 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

### What to Do

Courtesy of University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute

# Health Advisory

## For Eating Fish And Crabs Caught In New Jersey Waters *Fish Smart – Eat Smart*

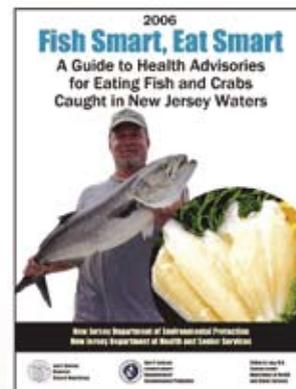
**F**ishing provides enjoyable and relaxing recreation. Fish are an excellent source of protein and other nutrients and play a role in maintaining a healthy, well-balanced diet. Many anglers enjoy cooking and eating their own catch. However, elevated levels of potentially harmful chemical contaminants, such as dioxin, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides and mercury have been found in certain fish and crabs in some New Jersey waters. 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 water body-specific warnings for a variety of fish species and fish consumers. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Department of Health and Senior Services have prepared literature and a new Web site to help you make informed choices about which fish to eat and how to reduce your exposure to these harmful chemicals.

**Check online for fish consumption advisories on the local water body in which you fish!**

**Go to [FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org](http://FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org)**

The new FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org is a user-friendly site designed to help you decide what fish are best for you to consume. The Fish Smart-Eat Smart Fish Advisory Web site 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 shows the water body location, fish species and any advisories that apply. This feature makes it easy to find current fish consumption advisories for the specific waterbody 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 [www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org](http://www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org) when making decisions about eating recreationally caught fish and crabs.

The Fish Smart-Eat Smart 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 Guide also includes Web site links to Pennsylvania, Delaware and New York for information about fish consumption advisories for shared waters.

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

The Fish Advisory Guide is available by contacting the following:

**New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection**  
Public Access Center (609) 777-DEP4 or [www.state.nj.us/dep](http://www.state.nj.us/dep)

**Division of Science, Research and Technology**  
(609) 984-6070 or [www.state.nj.us/dep/dsr](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/dsr)

Division of Fish and Wildlife  
(609) 748-2020 or [www.NJFishandWildlife.com](http://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](http://www.state.nj.us/health/eoh/foodweb/fishguid.htm)

## Continue the Tradition

### Become an instructor with Fish and Wildlife's Hunter Education Program.

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.

Call (856) 629-0552 to receive an application.

Or visit our Web site: [www.NJFishandWildlife.com](http://www.NJFishandWildlife.com)



# Take Me Fishing!



The memories will last a lifetime.



Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Fish and Wildlife

## Annual Open House and Fishermen's Flea Market

March 29 and 30, 2008

10 am - 4 pm

### Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center

Wildlife Artists, Conservation Groups, Taxidermists, Guides and Vendors!

Kids can fish in our famous education pond!

Hawg Trough • 3-D Archery Range

Kids Activities • And More!

Pequest is located on Rt. 46 nine miles west of Hackettstown

For information call (908) 637-4125 or go to

[www.NJFishandWildlife.com](http://www.NJFishandWildlife.com)

## New Jersey's FREE Freshwater Fishing Days

June 7 and 8, 2008



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 \$2,500 to establish a fishing and/or boating program in their schools. The grant is open to all K-12 health and physical education teachers who are members of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Training is five days. Application deadline: Jan. 21, 2008

For more information on the physical-education grants, visit the Future Fisherman Foundation at [www.futurefisherman.org/pegrant](http://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) 637-4125 or visit [www.NJFishandWildlife.com](http://www.NJFishandWildlife.com).



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## Special Interest to Anglers DEP Publications

[www.NJFishandWildlife.com](http://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
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 08625-0400 (609) 292-2965
- 2 NJ Geological Survey, Maps & Publications, Sales Office, PO Box 438, Trenton, NJ 08625-0438 (609) 777-1038
- 3 DEP, Div. Parks & Forestry, PO Box 404, Trenton, NJ 08625-0404 (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 seven 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](http://www.NJFishandWildlife.com/lstsubm.htm).

## New Jersey's Accessible Fishing Sites for People With Disabilities

Visit [www.NJFishandWildlife.com/sites.htm](http://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.



**Conserve Wildlife**  
Foundation of NJ



Alison Babin

**Supporting New Jersey's  
Division of Fish and Wildlife**

*Please Join the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ today and help keep New Jersey's wildlife in our future and our children's future!*

**\$35 Wildlife Partner**

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- Subscription to *Conserve Wildlife* newsletter
- *New Jersey Birds - A Pocket Naturalist Guide*
- CWF Membership Card

**\$50 Wildlife Protector**

- Wildlife Partner benefits plus a plush red-headed woodpecker

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**Enclosed is a check to Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ**

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**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Telephone #** \_\_\_\_\_

**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](http://www.ConserveWildlifeNJ.org)

FWT07



## 2008 New Jersey Musky School

**May 17 and 18  
Lake Hopatcong**

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 six-hour course includes a shore lunch. This is a catch and release event.

### At Musky School, you will learn:

- Seasonal musky patterns and lure presentations
- Fishing gear selection – rods, reels, leaders and line
- How to land, handle and properly release musky
- Musky trolling techniques: how to, where to and why to troll

#### Fee: \$250

*Reserve early with a \$50 non-refundable deposit.*

Balance due May 3. Choose either Saturday or Sunday.

Contact Kevin via e-mail at [johnsonke@optonline.net](mailto:johnsonke@optonline.net)  
Or by phone (201) 563-2554

Visit our web site [www.mi22.com](http://www.mi22.com)

Muskies Inc. is a non-profit organization.

This is a fundraising event.

All proceeds benefit the New Jersey musky fishery.

# Red at Night Fisherman's Delight

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## 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 2008 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 8 x 10 inches.

Contestants must also submit a 500-word essay on the same fish species, preferably typed, and must include details on where in New Jersey the fish is found, its habits, habitat and fish ecology.

Entries must be postmarked by **Friday, March 7, 2008**. 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](http://www.NJfishandWildlife.com). This activity helps teachers meet the following New Jersey Science Standards:

- 5.5 Life Science 5.10 Environmental Studies
- Grade 4: A1, A2 Grade 6: A1, B1
- Grade 6: C1
- Grade 8: B1, B2



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