



New Jersey

Fish & Wildlife

D I G E S T

2009 Freshwater Fishing Issue

January 2009

A summary of Rules & Management Information
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Free

**Season Dates,
Size and Creel Limits**

**Warmwater Fisheries
Management Program**

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In April, the Delaware River Shad Fishermen's Association provides a message on the shad run in the Delaware 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Information on river conditions and the status of the shad run is offered. Call in late evening or early morning to avoid a busy signal.

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Contact this 24-hour hotline to report a fish kill, illegal waterbody drawdown, pollution or other environmental offense.

Operation Game Thief (800) 222-0456

Call this number to anonymously report a fish or wildlife violation.

Commissioner's Message



BY LISA P. JACKSON

As we gear up for another season of first-rate freshwater fishing in New Jersey, take a moment to think about the person who got you hooked on this wonderful sport. Chances are this person holds a special place in your heart to this day.

Perhaps it was your father, mother or older sibling who showed you how to cast your line for the big one that surely lurked in the deepest and darkest regions of the local pond. Or maybe it was a childhood chum or even

a favorite aunt or uncle who unlocked the secrets of selecting just the right bait and tackle.

Whoever it was, this person was a mentor, instilling in you a passion and respect for the outdoors. You now have a deep appreciation for conservation and the challenges of keeping our fishing holes—big and small—clean and productive.

This mentor also gave you the gift of tranquility that comes from the quiet contemplation of standing hip-deep in a rushing stream while casting flies for trout or simply standing beside a lake waiting for the faintest flicker of movement from your line.

Here at the Department of Environmental Protection, one of our most important roles is to foster public stewardship of New Jersey's natural resources, such as the ponds, lakes, rivers and streams you fish. And that is why I want to ask you to consider doing something extra special for the sport that has given you so much.

This year, show your love for—and commitment to—the tradition of angling by bringing a buddy back to the sport or by introducing someone to the joy of fishing.

For a small state, New Jersey offers a surprising abundance and variety of outstanding fishing opportunities. The DEP's Division of Fish and Wildlife works diligently to promote the many benefits of fishing

and boost the sales of licenses that fund and enhance the angling opportunities we all enjoy.

Yet, for every angler who renews a freshwater fishing license this year, another will not. We have tens of thousands of anglers who continue the time-honored tradition of fishing, but thousands more are drifting away for a variety of reasons. It's not just New Jersey's challenge; it's a national trend.

Many feel their lives are too busy. Some even feel that time pressures are so tight that they're not spending enough time with family and friends. We must also face the reality that younger people are not being lured to the sport as easily as perhaps they once were.

By making it a personal goal this year to bring a former angler back to the sport or introduce fishing to a younger person – perhaps a son or daughter, a child of a family friend, a grandchild, a niece or nephew, you will be making an immeasurable investment in the future of this treasured tradition.

Start by selling what you know to be true: Happiness isn't found by watching a big-screen TV or fiddling with the modern-day wizardry of a video-game console. Then pitch the idea of a little fishing trip. Even offer to pay for sandwiches and soda. You'll probably get someone hooked without having to try very hard.

When the day is done, you will have given back to that special person whose love for the outdoors and understanding of what is truly important in life inspired your own passion for fishing.

And you may just find that you've landed a new lifelong fishing buddy.

Lisa P. Jackson is Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Commissioner Jackson was chosen to serve as Gov. Jon S. Corzine's Chief of Staff, effective Dec. 1.

Director's Message



BY DAVE CHANDA

Many changes in the field of fish and wildlife management have occurred during New Jersey Fish and Wildlife's 116-year history. Each decade brings new issues and new challenges, and with them, new tools to meet those challenges. During this long process of change and evolution, there has been one constant: the commitment of hunters and anglers to conservation of our fish and wildlife resources.

Their commitment is both financial and personal.

New Jersey's diverse and abundant fish and wildlife and their habitats exist today because of the fees hunters and anglers have paid and continue to pay for licenses, stamps and permits. But many hunters and anglers contribute something more precious than money to New Jersey's fish and wildlife resources—they give their time and their hearts. There is not a single facet of this Division's operations that has not benefited from the assistance of New Jersey's hunters and anglers.

This is especially true for the work that is done to protect and manage our state's aquatic resources. Anglers work side by side with biologists collecting data critical to the protection of streams. They've conducted angler surveys, tagged and finclipped thousands of fish to aid in growth studies and have stocked everything from 2-inch walleye to 22-plus-inch brown trout. These dedicated volunteers

brave March weather to help staff collect brood stock muskies, walleyes, and northern pike. Then, when heavy rains wash those trophy-sized fish over dams at lakes such as Greenwood, Swartswood and Hopatcong, anglers are the first on the scene to help capture and return them to the lakes.

Our waterways are healthier because of anglers' commitment. Countless hours are spent by volunteer anglers monitoring stream temperatures, helping remove dams to restore fish passage and restoring stream banks by planting trees, shrubs and grasses. Thousands of hours are also donated in teaching the next generation of anglers the joy of fishing and the responsibility we share as aquatic stewards.

Our fish and wildlife and their habitats would not be nearly as diverse and vibrant as they are without the help of our conservation allies. I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to all of the hunters and anglers who worked side by side with us through the decades; for donating thousands of hours of time and energy to enhance habitats for wildlife and countless hours of additional time teaching our youth about fish and wildlife conservation; for cheering us on when we are doing a good job; for nudging us when you knew we could do better; and finally, for willingly providing the funding necessary to conserve New Jersey's fish and wildlife for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

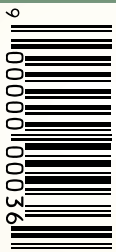
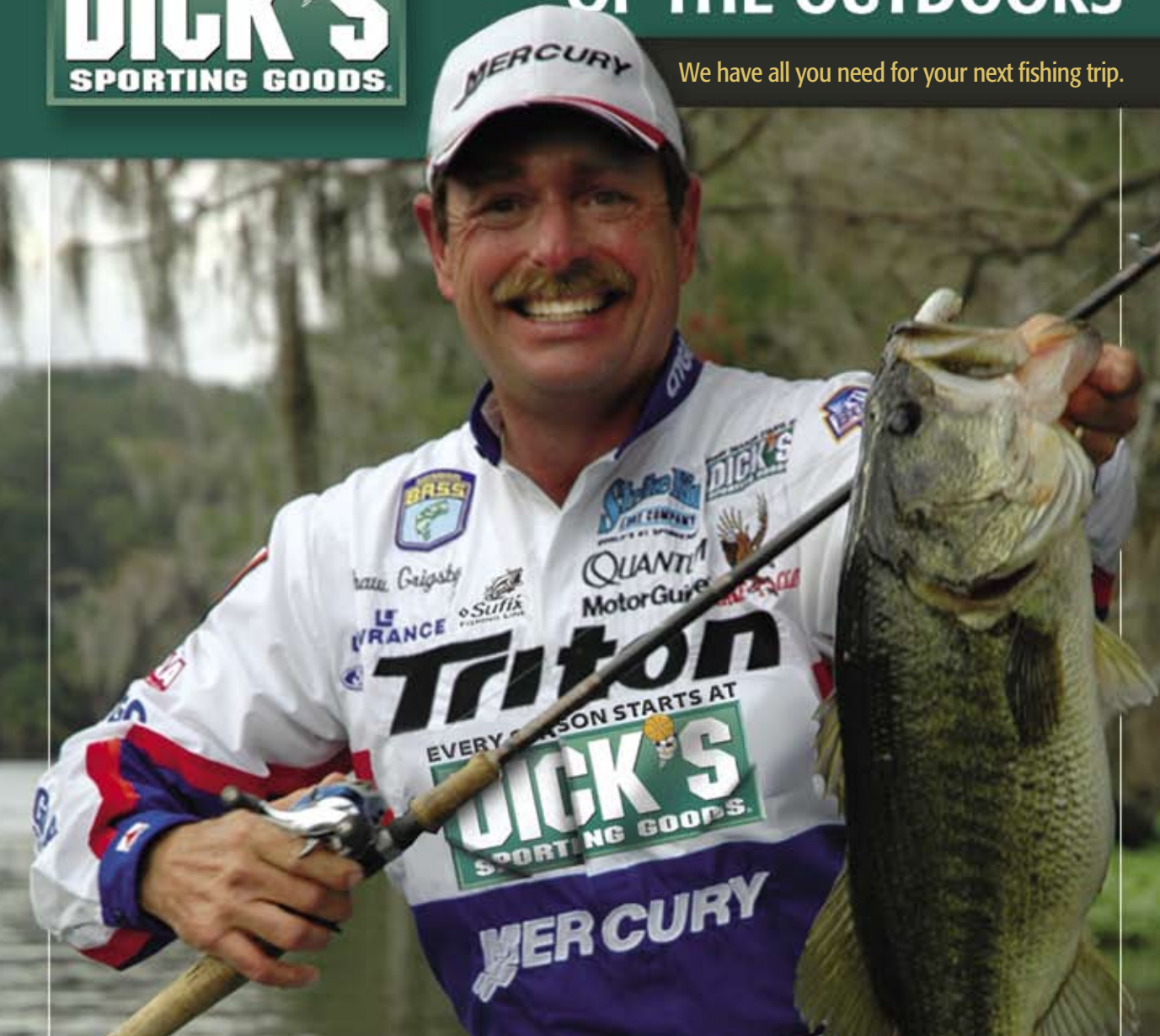
Dave Chanda is the Director of the Division of Fish & Wildlife.

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The Division of Fish and Wildlife is a professional, environmental organization dedicated to the protection, management and wise use of the state's fish and wildlife resources.

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New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife

Our Mission

To protect and manage the state's fish and wildlife to maximize their long-term biological, recreational and economic value for all New Jerseyans.

Our Goals

- To maintain New Jersey's rich variety of fish and wildlife species at stable, healthy levels and to protect and enhance the many habitats on which they depend.
- To educate New Jerseyans on the values and needs of our fish and wildlife and to foster a positive human/wildlife co-existence.
- To maximize the recreational and commercial use of New Jersey's fish and wildlife for both present and future generations.

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New Jersey's

Warmwater Fisheries Management Program

Chronicle Of A (Newly) Retired Biologist

By Bob Papson, Principal Fisheries Biologist



NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife

Assessing the Fishery—Hybrid striped bass are well-suited for larger waterbodies such as Spruce Run Reservoir, where fisheries biologist Bob Papson sampled this specimen in the late 1980s.

I probably acquired my interest in nature, wildlife and the outdoors while hiking and fishing at Splitrock Reservoir as a Boy Scout at nearby Camp Lewis. Who could have known that attraction would lead to a 36-year career as a fisheries biologist with New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife?

It's tremendously rewarding to see decades of progress in the realm of fisheries management, including progressive fish sampling techniques and refined fish culture practices in state-of-the-art hatchery facilities, all of which contribute to making New Jersey a destination for freshwater fishing.

Primitive Equipment

Like the career path of many, my 1972 starting point began at the entry level. As a fisheries worker, most of my time was spent assisting biologists collecting fish for various studies. Although electrofishing gear is still the equipment of choice for many sampling efforts today, back then the contraptions were awfully primitive.

We were young, eager-to-please fisheries workers willing to strap on our backs this equipment and then traipse upstream in a pair of heavy, black rubber waders. (Did I mention we did this during the hot, humid summer?) When shocking for fish, an electrical field is created between two electrodes in the water which will temporarily stun the fish, causing them to float to the surface where they are easily netted for sampling.

These early units were designed simply to get the job done.

Road Trip For Sportfishing

Several years into my career, the wheels began turning on an initiative that would change the course of warm/coolwater fishing opportunities in the Garden State. In those days, New Jersey anglers wet their lines in New York, Pennsylvania or Canada to fish for muskellunge, walleye, northern pike and even smallmouth bass. At that time, Fish and Wildlife's warmwater fisheries project biologist, Bob Stewart, recognized that New Jersey's habitat had the potential to create quality fisheries for these popular trophy sportfish.

Mastering Muskies

Northern pike was the first new warm/coolwater fishery that Stewart wanted to develop, but hatchery rearing techniques for large members of the pike family (esocids) were challenging in that day. Instead, Stewart began rearing tiger muskie which are easier to raise. The plan was to shift to pike production after mastering the rearing of muskie.

Stewart worked closely with personnel at the Hackettstown trout hatchery to develop the facilities (tanks, aeration systems, etc.) for rearing northern pike. Advice on rearing techniques from the Pennsylvania Fish Commission proved

invaluable. Pennsylvania also provided eggs and fry from their hatcheries until we could develop an ample northern pike fishery. New Jersey's program became self-sufficient in 1985 when our sole source of eggs was from in-state wild broodfish.

Branching Out

Still a young assistant biologist at that time, I worked with Stewart on broodstock collections and sampling to evaluate the fisheries at both Spruce Run Reservoir and Budd Lake.

By the mid-1980s, desirable targeted northern pike fisheries were established in several waterbodies. Fish culture efforts could now be directed toward other species. After working closely with Stewart for years on various warmwater fisheries projects, I took over as the warmwater fisheries project leader in 1986.

Pulling Up Proof

One of the most exciting experiences working with species introductions is capturing that first fish in your sampling gear, knowing a fishery is finally well on its way to being established. Successful experimental stockings in Assunpink and Cranberry lakes, although later dropped from the stocking program, led to the development of three very successful striped bass hybrid fisheries in the

larger waterbodies of Spruce Run Reservoir, Lake Hopatcong and Manasquan Reservoir, fisheries that are still enjoyed by anglers today.

Unexplored Territory: Three New Reservoirs

The late eighties and early nineties saw the creation of three new reservoirs, Monksville, Merrill Creek and Manasquan. These entirely distinctive waterbodies provided a unique prospect for a fishery biologist. Monksville Reservoir, a 505-acre water supply impoundment in Passaic, afforded an opportunity to introduce a species that I believed would have great potential in New Jersey—the walleye.

1983 marked a pivotal time in the development of the state's warmwater program as trout rearing shifted from the Hackettstown Hatchery to the newly-completed Pequest Hatchery. Now the 200-acre Hackettstown facility could be dedicated entirely to raising warmwater and coolwater species.



NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife

Fisheries biologist Bob Stewart Releases walleye fry at Monksville Reservoir during the initial stocking in 1988.

The fact that Monksville was a new impoundment added to the walleye's potential for success since there would be little competition from other species as the fishery developed. For the initial 1988 stocking we received 600,000 fry from the Pennsylvania Fish Commission and a generous donation of 2,000 advanced fingerlings from the New Jersey Anglers Sportsmen Association. Over time, the Hackettstown Hatchery staff's consistent success in producing quality fingerlings proved essential to this program.

One of the most gratifying moments in my career came in the fall of 1989 when I retrieved the first of three gillnets from the reservoir and pulled up a couple dozen walleye averaging 14.1 inches—fish from the initial stocking the previous year! At that moment it was clear the walleye program would be a success. Further proof arrived on the end of my hook several years later when I reeled in a 4-pound walleye during my first fishing trip to Monksville Reservoir.

Smallmouth bass were recommended for introduction to Merrill Creek and Manasquan reservoirs in their early years. Our broodfish source was a private hydrogenerating reservoir. The method of capture was hook and line, a real tough assignment. Today, hatchery production of smallmouth bass fingerling continues on an as-needed basis.

1972

Bob Papson takes an entry-level job with New Jersey's fishery program.

Intensive Fish Culture Techniques

Another true milestone in our warm/coolwater fisheries program came with the 1995 completion of the state-of-the-art intensive culture building at the Hackettstown Hatchery. The new facility provided more efficient, consistent and improved production in the quantity and size of fingerlings, assuring that our stocking goals for the present and future could be achieved.

Two years prior, Fish and Wildlife had begun rearing and stocking true-strain muskellunge. We were confident we could develop several quality muskellunge fisheries following the proven success of Muskies, Inc's initial stocking of fingerlings into Greenwood Lake. However, raising true-strain muskellunge is more challenging than either northern pike or tiger muskies. The completion of the Hackettstown intensive culture building helped to propel forward the success of New Jersey's muskellunge program.

The Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery remains a major component of the state's warm/coolwater fisheries program. There are few facilities of its kind in the country that raise such a diversity of species—14 in all. The hatchery has been a consistent producer, providing the quantity and size of fish to meet stocking goals and to maintain these quality fisheries for Garden State anglers.

Quality Fisheries Close to Home

It is gratifying to have been involved in the development of the quality warm/coolwater fisheries management program. The slogan "New Jersey's Freshwater Fishing Has Never Been Better" is absolutely true. Dozens of quality new fisheries have been created for species that New Jersey anglers traveled out-of-state to enjoy 20 years ago. Fisheries that routinely produce muskellunge over 48 inches, northern pike over 15 pounds, tiger muskie over 20 pounds, plus walleye and striped bass hybrids over 8 pounds now inhabit New Jersey waters along with channel catfish and smallmouth bass.

1983

After Pequest Trout Hatchery Opens (1982), Hackettstown shifts focus to warm- and coolwater species.

1986

Bob Papson becomes the new warmwater fisheries project leader.

1989

The Monksville walleye stocking program, founded by Bob Papson, is a success.

1995

A new intensive culture facility at Hackettstown boosts the warmwater team's productivity.




NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife

Reaping the Benefits—Bob Papson holds a prized walleye he caught fishing the Delaware River in March 2006.

You Were Paid To Do *What?*

Aspects of this job that I loved the most include working with folks who are so truly dedicated to New Jersey's freshwater resources—biologists, fisheries workers, anglers and conservationists, alike. How fortunate to have the chance to create new fishing opportunities for New Jersey and to work with anglers and sportsmen's groups to make that happen. Certainly there was the benefit of field work: being paid to traipse around streams, lakes and rivers on an almost daily basis for several months of the year, after 36 years, is still just as rewarding as when my career began.

Pride In Your Work

It has been especially rewarding to work with the development of the Monksville Reservoir fishery from its inception—beginning with planning the reservoir's fish habitat, stocking the various species, collecting brood fish, assessing the fishery—and finally, developing the management plan. I am most proud of my involvement in creating the quality walleye fishery that some anglers say compares favorably with those found in Canada. In more recent years, there was great satisfaction from being involved in obtaining public fishing access at Splitrock Reservoir, the waterbody which was the inspiration for this fisheries biologist's career. 



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(see page 21)

True New Jersey Natives

By **SHAWN CROUSE**
Principal Fisheries Biologist
Photos by author

New Jersey anglers know a lot about fishing the Garden State. Most avid fishermen can distinguish a largemouth from a smallmouth bass. Many of us catch our limit of stocked trout on opening day while others have wet enough lines to have mastered techniques for catching lake trout, walleye or muskie. But many anglers may not know that each of these species, including most of our popular gamefish, were introduced to our state for recreational purposes. That's right, northern pike, channel catfish, rainbow and brown trout, hybrid stripers, common carp, crappie and even bluegill are not native to New Jersey.



bluespotted
sunfish

Of the nearly 100 freshwater fish species that swim in our waters, only 65 of them are native. The term native is often misused to describe an individual fish that was born in the wild. The most common misuse among anglers is when we claim to catch *native* brown trout in New Jersey streams. Actually, brown trout are native to the British Isles and the European mainland. What we catch here are *wild* brown trout.

Non-native fish such as brown trout and largemouth bass reproduce in New Jersey waters, but that does not make them native. A *native* species is one naturally occurring within the geographi-

cal region in which it evolved, whereas *non-native* species have been dispersed by humans (intentionally or unintentionally) beyond their original geographical region.

With the exception of our native sportfish such as chain pickerel, brook trout, pumpkinseed, redbreast sunfish, yellow perch, American shad, American eels, white catfish and bullheads—the majority of our native fishes are relatively unknown. Some of the most interesting, rare and important fishes are those native species that may never take a hook.

(continued on page 12)

NATIVE NEW JERSEY FISHES

One of New Jersey's most interesting species is the **American brook lamprey**. They spend the first four to five years of their life blind, buried into the substrate, filter-feeding upon small particles. During the last year-and-a-half of their lives, functional eyes develop and their hood-like mouth transforms into a toothed, disk-like structure, similar to their relative the sea lamprey. However brook lampreys are not parasitic; they neither eat nor have a functioning digestive system in this adult stage, where they reach a maximum length of just over 12 inches. Because they require specific water conditions with a silt-free substrate, the American brook lamprey also serves as an indicator species, acting as a marker for this particular habitat feature.



American brook lamprey



slimy sculpin

Often tied by fly fishermen, the muddler minnow imitates a small native fish known as the **slimy sculpin**, a well-camouflaged swift-moving fish. Fluke fishermen may see the sculpin's resemblance to a sea robin. The sculpin serves as the ultimate indicator species of clean, cold water and pristine habitat quality.

Although not a true perch, the **pirate perch** may appear to have no unique characteristics, until viewed from its underside. This fish has a migrating anus. (Really!) As a juvenile, the anatomic arrangement of this fish resembles that of most other species, but as a pirate perch matures, its vent moves forward until it finds a permanent residence under the throat.



pirate perch

John Bunnell



ironcolor shiner

Minnows such as the **ironcolor shiner** and **bridle shiner** were once found in many clear, vegetated waters throughout more than 20 states. Now rarely encountered, these fish appear on several states' threatened and endangered species lists. Never larger than 2.5 inches, these straw-colored shiners are vulnerable to habitat loss and predation from non-native species.



bridle shiner

Dr. Joseph Colosi,
DeSales University



cutlips minnow

A master of swift waters, **blacknose** and **longnose dace** are two of the most common minnows found in streams of the northern portion of the state. They are frequently found in trout streams.



dace

longnose

blacknose

The **cutlips minnow** seems harmless enough, but this fish has been known to pluck out the eyes of other fish. But there is no reason to fear; this native fish has evolved and coexists with other New Jersey fishes since the last Ice Age.

Possibly the most beautiful group of all New Jersey freshwater fish, the acid-tolerant family of sunfish includes the **bluespotted, banded, blackbanded and mud sunfish**. Apart from the mud sunfish, these tiny sunfish rarely attains even four inches in length. With the exception of the bluespotted sunfish, these species are primarily restricted to minimally-disturbed lakes and slow-moving streams in south Jersey inhabited by few non-native sunfish and bass, as found in the Pinelands.



blackbanded sunfish



bluespotted sunfish



banded sunfish

John Bunnell



mud sunfish

(continued from page 10)


Beyond the value we enjoy from having a fish on the end of a rod, on the dinner plate or in an aquarium, native fishes—both large and small—are an important piece of a complex, ecological puzzle. Over millions of years, evolutionary processes resulted in an uncountable variety of fish species worldwide, all with a different appearance, behavior and tolerance for environmental changes. Each native species forms a strand in the food web, sharing their preferred waterbody with other aquatic life as an integral component in a dynamic ecosystem. The presence (or absence) of a particular native species—or groupings of species—can serve as a biological health indicator, reminding us of the fragile nature of our aquatic resources.

**On a global scale,
numerous native fishes
have gone extinct and
many more are declining.**

On a global scale, numerous native fishes have gone extinct and many more are declining. Human population growth has caused drastic land use changes resulting in degradation of both terrestrial and aquatic habitat (including water quality), reducing the number of suitable waterbodies for their survival. Cumulative effects from dams, stormwater runoff, fertilizers, pesticides, water supply depletion and sewage discharge—to name just a few—impact our fisheries resources. The influx of invasive plants, animals and diseases threatens the existence of native fishes. Widespread

distribution of many non-native species exerts tremendous competition and predation pressures, unlike any our natives have faced in their evolutionary history. In addition, if global warming results in a rapid change in conditions, these pressures may exceed the ability of native fishes to adapt in time.

Back in New Jersey, the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries conducts hundreds of fisheries surveys, providing valuable data to better understand the status and distribution of our native fishes. Fish and Wildlife is working toward creating species distribution maps, formally evaluating our native fishes resource and developing management strategies to guide research and management activities into the future.

Our waters give rise not only to sport fish that tip the scales, but also to an assortment of miniature wonders. On your next trip, take a closer look. Be curious. Several native species may scurry among the cobble with your next wading step. You may find it intriguing to identify and learn more about a less-familiar fish. While many may be common species, others might be brilliantly-colored, absurdly unique or increasingly rare. Whether in your bait bucket, on the end of your line or in the waters below, ask yourself if this fish is a true New Jersey native. 

For a checklist of New Jersey freshwater fishes, visit www.NJFishandWildlife.com/chkfish.htm.

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This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. All persons are reminded that the statutes, code and regulations are the legal authorities.

Licenses

- For anglers 16 and over, a license is required to fish the fresh waters of New Jersey, including privately owned waters.
- **Resident** anglers age 70 and over do not require a license. A driver's license or other acceptable proof of age containing date of birth and physical description will serve as the actual license.
- License must be visibly displayed on outer clothing.
- License and trout stamp are both valid from date of purchase through Dec. 31.
- A person must reside in New Jersey for six months to obtain a resident license.
- Farmers and immediate family members who live on the farm do not need a license to fish on their own farm, but must obey all fishing regulations.
- Anyone convicted of a second fish or wildlife violation in this or another state within a period of five years will have his or her New Jersey licenses revoked for a minimum of two years.

Trout Stamps

For anglers 16 and over, and residents under the age of 70, a valid fishing license and trout stamp are both required to fish for or possess trout. No trout stamp is required for **residents** 70 years and over.

Purchasing a License

Licenses may be purchased through the mail, online at www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ/ or at license agents such as sporting goods stores plus bait and tackle shops. Visit our Web site at www.NJFishandWildlife.com for details, or call (609) 292-2965.

Replacement – Lost License or Stamp

A license, permit or stamp can be replaced at any license agent or online at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site, www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ/ or through our regular Web site at www.NJFishandWildlife.com. The Trenton Fish and Wildlife office is no longer open to the public for license or permit sales.

Special Licenses

Servicemen and Servicewomen

A person who is on active duty in the armed services of the United States is entitled to fish with a resident license.

National Guard Members

Eligible National Guard personnel are entitled to free licenses, permits, and stamps. Further information can be obtained by writing to: NJ Department of Military/Veteran Affairs, 101 Eggerts Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648. Or call (609) 530-6866 for 1st Sgt. Turrian

Disabled Veterans Licenses, Stamps and Permits

Free hunting and fishing licenses, stamps and permits are available for resident disabled veterans.

For the purposes of this program, a disabled veteran is a New Jersey resident who has been honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active service from any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces who has a service-connected disability of any degree.

New applicant disabled veterans may obtain their hunting and fishing licenses and stamps at the following Fish and Wildlife field offices:

- Pequest Trout Hatchery/Natural Resource Ed. Ctr, Oxford, Warren Co., (908) 637-4125
- Central Region Office, Upper Freehold Twp., Monmouth Co., (609) 259-2132
- Southern Region Office, Sicklerville, Camden Co., (856) 629-0090.

Once disabled veteran status is established with Fish and Wildlife, veterans may obtain a license, stamp or permit at any license agent or online at www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ/.

All licenses, stamps and permits for which the veteran is eligible will be free of charge. This does not give preferential treatment in any lottery.

Disabled Veteran Applicants:

1. Documentation of current benefits for a service-connected disability and proof of honorable discharge (such as a copy of your DD-214, VA card or monthly check stub) must be presented to obtain a free disabled veteran license.
2. Applicant must provide a hunter education course (archery, shotgun or rifle) certificate applicable to the license for which he or she is applying or a previously issued resident archery or firearm license or rifle permit. Resident licenses from other states issued to hunters prior to establishing residency in New Jersey will be accepted if the license indicates the sporting arm for which it was valid. Non-resident licenses from other states are not acceptable.
3. To obtain the free disabled veteran deer/turkey permits one must first have a free disabled veteran hunting license.

For the Blind

Residents afflicted with total blindness may obtain a free license from Fish and Wildlife's Trenton office. Call (609) 292-2965 for an application.

Summary of General Fishing Regulations

The season, size and creel limits for freshwater species apply to all waters of the state, including tidal waters.

- Fish may be taken only in the manner known as angling with handline or with rod and line, or as otherwise allowed by law.

2009 License Information & Fees

(Licenses and fishing-related permits are valid from date of purchase to Dec. 31 of each year.)

LICENSE & FEES

Licenses

Resident Fishing (Ages 16–64 yrs.)	\$22.50
Senior Resident Fishing (Ages 65–69 yrs.; 70 & over—Free).....	\$12.50
Resident Trout Stamp (Ages 16–69 yrs.)	\$10.50
Non-resident Fishing (Age 16 yrs. and older).....	\$34
Non-resident Trout Stamp	\$20
Non-resident 2-Day Vacation Fishing	\$9
Non-resident 7-Day Vacation Fishing	\$19.50
All-Around Sportsman (includes resident fishing, firearm hunting and bow/arrow hunting licenses)	\$72.25

Permits

Available online or through license agents:	
Boat Ramp Permit	\$15
Available through the Lebanon Field Office (908) 236-2118:	
Water Lowering, Fish Stocking, Baitfish Collecting, Fish Tagging	\$2
Turtle & Frog Collecting	\$2
Scientific Collecting	\$22

- When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, handlines or combination thereof may be used.
- Only one daily creel of any fish species may be in possession. Additional fish may be caught once the creel is reached if immediately returned to the water unharmed.
- Separate stringers or buckets must be used for each angler's catch.
- Boats may contain only the combined daily creel limit for each legal angler on board.
- A fishing license does not authorize trespass on private property. Permission first must be obtained from the landowner.

It Is Unlawful To:

- Fish within 100 feet (or as posted) of any fish ladder entrance or exit from March 1 through June 30.
- Spear fish in fresh waters. See exception for Delaware River, page 24.
- Possess a fishing device with more than nine hooks in total, or more than three treble hooks, except for the Delaware River; see page 24.
- Use set lines.
- Use cast nets in freshwater lakes or trout stocked waters. See *Baitfish Regulations*, page 26 for other exclusions.
- Foul hook any species other than yellow perch and white perch. This does not apply to fish taken through the ice.
- Snag any species of fish in Swartswood Lake and its tributaries, including Neldon Brook, plus Monksville Reservoir and its tributaries, including the Wanaque River.

Bow and Arrow Fishing

Any species of fish, except brook, brown, lake or rainbow trout, landlocked Atlantic salmon, largemouth or smallmouth bass, striped bass or any of its hybrids, pickerel, northern pike, walleye, muskellunge or any of its hybrids, may be taken at any time by use of a bow and arrow with line attached by the holder of a valid fishing license. See regulations for the Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, page 24–25.

Emergency Closures

It is illegal to fish or attempt to catch or kill fish by any manner or means in any waters for which the Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, upon approval by the Fish and Game Council, issues an emergency closure notice. Such notification is effective and/or rescinded immediately upon public notification. Emergency closures shall be based upon

Water Supply Reservoirs Open To Fishing By Permit Only

Permits must be obtained from the specific reservoir owner listed below. A valid fishing license is also required.

Waterbody		County	Type of Fishing	Fee	Permit Source
Newark-Pequanock Watershed Reservoirs	Echo Lake	Passaic	Boat & Shoreline	Yes	Permits available in person only at these locations: Newark Watershed Conserv. & Dev. Corp 223 Echo Lake Road Newfoundland, NJ 07435 (973) 697-2850 40 Clinton Street, 4th Floor Newark, NJ 07102 (973) 622-4521
	Clinton Reservoir				
	Oak Ridge Reservoir	Morris			
	Canistear Reservoir	Sussex			
Point View Reservoir		Passaic	Shoreline only Sat. & Sun 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.	No	Passaic Valley Water Commission 1525 Main Avenue, Clifton, NJ 07015 (973) 340-4309 Send stamped, self-addressed envelope. A daily permit will be mailed. Permit allows two people to fish.
Oradell Reservoir		Bergen	Shoreline only	Yes	United Water Company 200 Old Hook Road Harrington Park, NJ 07640 (201) 767-9300 x3208
Woodcliff Lake					
Lake Tappan Reservoir					

imminent threat to the well-being of the fishery resources, and/or its users, and may include any exceptions to the total ban of fishing that the Director deems practical.

Ice Fishing

No more than five devices may be used for taking fish when ice is present. The devices that may be used are:

1. Ice supported tip-ups or lines with one single pointed hook attached, or one burr of three hooks that measure not more than 1/2-inch from point to shaft;
2. An artificial jigging lure with not more than one burr of three hooks that measure not more than 1/2-inch from point to point;
3. An artificial jigging lure with not more than three single hooks measuring not more than 1/2-inch from point to shaft;
4. An artificial jigging lure with a combination of the hook limitations described in 2 and 3 above.

Natural bait may be used on the hooks of the artificial jigging lures. All devices that are not hand-held must bear the name and address of the user and cannot be left unattended.

Carp and suckers may be taken with net under the ice. Suckers may be taken through the ice by means of hooks, no more than three, directly attached to a rigid handle between December 1 and March 1.

See separate regulations for trout-stocked waters and Greenwood Lake.

Sale of Fish

It is illegal to sell any freshwater fish species except under commercial permits as prescribed in the Fish and Game Code. Artificially-propagated trout, if properly tagged, may be sold for food purposes.


Stocking Fish

A permit is required to stock fish or fish eggs into any waters of the state, public or private, at any time. An application may be obtained by contacting the Lebanon Field Office at (908) 236-2118. It is ILLEGAL to stock carp or koi into any such waters.

Tagging Fish

No person may tag or mark and then release a fish without first obtaining a fish stocking permit or by special permit issued by Fish and Wildlife. Contact the Lebanon Field Office at (908) 236-2118 for application information.

Waste of Fish

Fish of any species which are purposely killed become part of the angler's daily limit and must be removed from the waters from which they were taken, then either used or otherwise disposed of properly. 

General Trout Information

2009 REGULATIONS

This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. All persons are reminded that the statutes, code and regulations are the legal authorities. Red text indicates a regulation change.

2009 General Trout Fishing Information

- Opening day of trout season: April 11, 2009 at 8 a.m.
- When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, hand lines or combination thereof may be used.
- A valid fishing license and trout stamp are both required for residents at least 16 years and less than 70 years of age plus all non-residents 16 years and older.
- Ponds, lake or sections of streams which are stocked with trout are **closed to fishing for all species** from March 23 to April 11 at 8 a.m. **Exceptions:** Lake Farrington, Lake Hopatcong, Lake Shenandoah, Prospertown Lake and Swartswood Lake are open year round to fishing. However, all trout caught during this period (above) must be released immediately. Seasonal or Year-round Trout Conservation Areas and designated Holdover Trout Lakes (see pages 19–20) are also open to fishing but are catch-and-release only for trout. Fishing is not permitted on seasonal trout conservation areas from 12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m. on April 11, 2009.
- Trout stocked waters are open to fishing beginning April 11, including the days they are stocked **unless** listed with closures on page 18.
- Only one daily creel limit of trout may be in possession. Once the creel limit is reached, an angler may continue to fish provided any additional trout caught are immediately returned to the water unharmed.
- Separate stringers or buckets must be used for each angler's catch.
- Containers in boats may hold only the combined daily creel limit for each legal angler on board.
- Fish and Wildlife reserves the right to suspend stocking when emergency conditions prevail.

Spring Trout Stocked Waters With No In-Season Fishing Closures

After opening day these waters may be fished on the day they are stocked.

Note: The number in parentheses indicates the anticipated number of in-season stockings (from April 11 through May 29). A zero indicates the water will only be stocked pre-season (the three-week period preceding opening day). For details on what's being stocked and when, call the Trout Hotline at (609) 633-6765. This recorded message is updated weekly. (Spring stocking: April–May; Fall stocking: October; Winter stocking: November.) Or visit our Web site at www.NJFishandWildlife.com where you will also find directions to public-access portions of trout-stocked waters.

Atlantic County

Birch Grove Park Pond—Northfield (4)
Hammonton Lake—Hammonton (4)
Heritage Pond—Absecon (3)

Bergen County

Dahnert's Lake—Garfield (3)
Hackensack River—Lake Tappan to Harriot Ave., Harrington Park (4)
Hohokus Brook—Forest Rd. to Saddle River (4)
Indian Lake—Little Ferry (4)
Mill Pond—Park Ridge (3)
Pascack Creek—Orchard St., Hillsdale, to Lake St., Westwood (4)
Potash Lake—Oakland (3)
Saddle River—Lake St. to Dunkerhook Rd., Fair Lawn (5)
Scarlet Oak Pond—Mahwah (0)
Tenakill Creek—Closter, entire length (3)
Whites Pond—Waldwick (4)

Burlington County

Crystal Lake—Willingboro (4)
Laurel Pond—Mt. Laurel (3)
Pemberton Lake—Pemberton (3)
Rancocas Creek, Southwest Br.—Medford, Mill St. Park to Branch St. Bridge (4)
Sylvan Lake—Burlington (3)

Camden County

Gloucester City Pond—Gloucester (4)
Grenloch Lake (see Gloucester County)
Haddon Lake—Audubon (0)
Oak Pond—Sicklerville (4)
Rowands Pond—Clementon (3)

Cape May County

Dennisville Lake—Dennisville (3)
West Pond—Cape May Court House (4)

Cumberland County

Cohansey River—Dam at Seeleys Pond to powerline above Sunset Lake, Bridgeton (4)
Giampietro Park Lake—Vineland (3)
Mary Elmer Lake—Bridgeton (3)
Maurice River—Willow Grove Lake dam to Sherman Ave., Vineland (4)
Shaws Mill Pond—Newport (3)

Essex County

Branch Brook Park Lake—Newark (4)
Clarks Pond—Bloomfield (0)
Diamond Mill Pond—Millburn (3)
Rahway River (W/Br)—Campbell's Pond to Glen Ave. (Millburn) (3)
Verona Park Lake—Verona (4)

Gloucester County

Greenwich Lake—Gibbstown (3)
Grenloch Lake—Turnersville (3)
Harrisonville Lake—Harrisonville (3)
Iona Lake—Iona (3)
Mullica Hill Pond—Mullica Hill (3)
Swedesboro Lake—Swedesboro (3)
Westville Lake—Westville (0)

Hudson County

West Hudson County Park Pond—Harrison (0)
Woodcliff Lake—James J. Braddock Park, North Bergen (4)

Hunterdon County

Amwell Lake—East Amwell (3)
Beaver Brook—Clinton Twp., entire length (2)
Capoolong Creek—Pittstown, entire length (5)
Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal—Bulls Island to Hunterdon/Mercer County line (6)
Hakihokake Creek—Holland Twp., entire length (2)
Lockatong Creek—Kingwood Twp., entire length (5)

Manny's Pond—Union Twp. (3)
Mountain Farm Pond—Lebanon Twp. (3)
Mulhockaway Creek—Pattenburg, source to Spruce Run Reservoir (5)
Neshanic River—Kuhl Rd. to Rt. 514 (2)
Nishisakawick Creek—Frenchtown to Everittstown, entire length (2)
Rockaway Creek—Readington Twp., entire length (4)
Rockaway Creek, S. Br.—Lebanon to Whitehouse, round Valley Reservoir (5)
Round Valley Reservoir—Clinton Twp. (1)
Sidney Brook—Grandin, entire length (1)
Spring Mills Brook—Spring Mills, entire length (2)
Spruce Run—Glen Gardner and Lebanon Twp., entire length (5)
Wickechoke Creek—Covered Bridge, Rt. 604, Sergeantsville to Delaware River (2)

Mercer County

Assumpink Creek—Assumpink Site 5 dam upstream of Rt. 130 bridge to Carnegie Rd., Hamilton Twp. (4)
Colonial Lake—Lawrence Twp. (3)
Delaware-Raritan Canal—Mulberry St., Trenton to Alexander St., Princeton (4)
Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal—Hunterdon/Mercer County line to Upper Ferry Rd. bridge (6)
Rosedale Lake—Rosedale (3)
Stony Brook—Woodsville to Port Mercer (4)

Middlesex County

Farrington Lake—North Brunswick (3)
Hooks Creek Lake—Cheesequake State Park (4)
Ireland Brook—Farrington Lake to point 500 ft. upstream of Riva Ave. (2)
Lake Papaiani—Edison (0)
Lawrence Brook—Dam at Farrington Lake to 2nd RR bridge (Raritan Railroad) below Main St., Milltown (4)
Roosevelt Park Pond—Edison Twp. (3)

Monmouth County

Echo Lake—Southard (3)
 Englishtown Mill Pond—Englishtown (3)
 Garvey's Pond—Navesink (3)
 Hamilton Fire Pond—Neptune (3)
 Hockhockson Brook—Hockhockson Rd. to Garden State Parkway bridge (northbound) (5)
 Holmdel Park Pond—Holmdel (3)
 Mac's Pond—Manasquan (0)
 Mingamahone Brook—Farmingdale, Hurley Pond Rd. to Manasquan River (5)
 Mohawk Pond—Red Bank (4)
 Shadow Lake—Red Bank (3)
 Shark River—Hamilton, Rt. 33 to Remsen Mill Rd. (5)
 Spring Lake—Spring Lake (3)
 Takanassee Lake—Long Branch (4)
 Topenemus Lake—Freehold (3)
 Yellow Brook—Heyers Mill Rd. to Muhlenbrink Rd., Colts Neck Twp. (2)

Morris County

Beaver Brook—Rockaway, entire length (3)
 Burnham Park Pond—Morristown (4)
 Drakes Brook—Flanders, entire length (3)
 Hibernia Brook—Hibernia, entire length (5)
 India Brook—Mountainside Ave. to Rt. 24, Ralston (5)
 Lake Hopatcong—Lake Hopatcong (3)
 Lake Musconetcong—Netcong (3)
 Mt. Hope Pond—Mt. Hope (3)
 Passaic River—White Bridge to Rt. 24, Chatham Borough (4)
 Pequannock River—(see Passaic Co.)
 Pompton River—Pequannock Twp. (see Passaic Co.)
 Russia Brook—Jefferson Twp., Ridge Rd. to Lake Swannanoa (2)
 Speedwell Lake—Morristown (4)
 Whippany River—Tingley Rd., Morris Twp. to Ridgedale Ave., Morristown (2)

Ocean County

Lake Shenandoah—Lakewood, Ocean County Park (3)
 Pohatcong Lake—Tuckerton (4)
 Prospertown Lake—Prospertown (3)

Passaic County

Barbours Pond—West Paterson (3)
 Clinton Reservoir—Newark Watershed (3)
 Green Turtle Pond—Wanaque Wildlife Mgt. Area, Hewitt (3)
 Oldham Pond—North Haledon (3)
 Pequannock River—Rt. 23, Smoke Rise to Paterson-Hamburg Turnpike, Pompton Lakes (6)
 Pompton River—Pompton Lake to Newark Pompton Turnpike (4)
 Ringwood Brook—State line to Sally's Pond, Ringwood State Park (5)
 Sheppard Lake—Ringwood State Park (3)

Salem County

Harrisonville Lake—Harrisonville (3)
 Maurice River—Willow Grove Lake dam to Sherman Ave., Vineland (4)
 Riverview Beach Pond—Pennsville Twp. (4)
 Schadlers Sand Wash Pond—Penns Grove (3)

Somerset County

Lamington River—Rt. 523 (Lamington Road) at Burnt Mills to jct. with the N/Br. of Raritan River (4)
 Middle Brook, E/Br.—Martinsville, entire length (2)
 Passaic River—(See Morris Co.)
 Peapack Brook—Peapack-Gladstone, entire length (5)
 Raritan River—Jct. of Raritan River N/Br., and S/Br., to Rt. 206 bridge (4)
 Rock Brook—Zion, entire length (1)
 Spooky Brook Park Pond—Franklin (0)

Sussex County

Alms House Pond—Myrtle Grove, Hampton Twp. (3)
 Andover Junction Brook—Andover, entire length (2)
 Big Flat Brook, Upper—Saw Mill Pond, High Point State Park to 100 ft. above Steam Mill Bridge on Crigger Rd, Stokes State Forest (4)
 Blue Mountain Lake—Delaware Water Gap Nat'l Recreation Area (3)
 Clove River—Jct. of Mt. Salem Rd. and Mt. Salem Rd. to Rt. 565 bridge (5)
 Culver's Creek—Frankford Twp., entire length (5)
 Dry Brook—Branchville, entire length (3)
 Franklin Pond Creek—Hamburg Mtn. WMA, entire length (5)
 Glenwood Brook—Lake Glenwood to state line (2)
 Lake Aeroflex—Andover (3)
 Lake Hopatcong—Lake Hopatcong (3)
 Lake Musconetcong—Netcong (3)
 Lake Ocquittunk—Stokes State Forest (3)
 Little Flat Brook—Sandyston Twp., entire length (5)
 Little Swartswood Lake—Swartswood (3)
 Lubbers Run—Byram Twp., entire length (5)
 Neldon Brook—Swartswood, entire length (2)
 Papakating Creek—Plains Rd. bridge to Rt. 565, Lewisburg (2)
 Papakating Creek, W/Br.—Libertyville, entire length (2)
 Pond Brook—Middleville, entire length (5)
 Saw Mill Pond—High Point State Park (3)
 Silver Lake—Hamburg Mountain WMA (0)
 Stony Lake—Stokes State Forest (3)
 Swartswood Lake—Swartswood (3)
 Trout Brook—Middleville, entire length (2)
 Wawayanda Creek—Vernon, entire length (5)
 Wawayanda Lake—Vernon (3)

Union County

Green Brook—Rt. 527, Berkeley Heights to Rt. 22, Scotch Plains (2)
 Lower Echo Park Pond—Mountainside (3)
 Milton Lake—Madison Hill Rd. Bridge to Milton Lake dam, Rahway (4)
 Passaic River—(See Morris Co.)
 Rahway River—I-78 bridge, Springfield to St. George Ave. (Rt. 27), Rahway (4)
 Seeleys Pond—Berkeley Heights (3)
 Warinanco Park Pond (0)

Warren County

Beaver Brook—Silver Lake Dam to Pequest River (4)
 Blair Creek—Hardwick Center to Blair Lake (2)
 Blair Lake—Blairstown (3)
 Buckhorn Creek—Roxburg, entire length (2)
 Columbia Lake and Gatehole—Knowlton Twp. (3)
 Furnace Brook—Oxford, entire length (2)
 Furnace Lake—Oxford (3)
 Honey Run—Swayze's Mill Rd. to Rt. 519, Hope Twp. (2)
 Jacksonburg Creek—Jacksonburg, entire length (2)
 Lopatcong Creek—Rt. 519 to South Main St., Phillipsburg (5)
 Merrill Creek Reservoir—Stewartsville (1)
 Pohatcong Creek—Mt. Bethel to Rt. 31 (2)
 Pophandusing Creek—Oxford Rd., Hazen to Delaware River (2)
 Roaring Rock Brook—Brass Castle, entire length (2)
 Trout Brook—Hackettstown, entire length (2)
 Trout Brook—Hope, entire length (2)
 White Lake—Hardwick (1) 

ACCESSIBILITY ■ 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.

▶▶ WE NEED YOUR COOPERATION!

The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has stocked brown trout in the lower Manasquan River, Monmouth County. Anglers are asked to report all catches of brown trout that exhibit characteristics of a sea run. These fish tend to develop a more silvery coloration, masking most of the body spots after an extended time in salt water.



Sea Run Brown Trout

The future of this program depends on these fish being reported.

Call Pequest State Fish Hatchery (908) 637-4173 or
 Lebanon Field Office (908) 236-2118.



General Trout Fishing Regulations

BROOK, BROWN & RAINBOW TROUT AND HYBRIDS			
Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Exceptions
January 1–March 22	9 inches	4	1. Trout-stocked waters with in-season closures are closed to fishing 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on days listed for stocking (See listing below). 2. Special regulation areas (wild trout streams, year round and seasonal trout conservation areas, trophy and holdover trout lakes). 3. On lakes Farrington, Hopatcong, Prospertown, Shenandoah and Swartswood fishing is permitted during the period March 23–April 11 at 8 a.m. All trout caught during this period must immediately be released. 4. Greenwood Lake and Delaware River—see separate regulations for boundary waters, pages 24–25.
March 23–April 11 at 8 a.m.	Fishing prohibited on trout stocked waters. Catch and release for trout in all other waters.		
April 11 at 8 a.m. – May 31	9 inches	6	
June 1 – Dec. 31	9 inches	4	
LAKE TROUT REGULATIONS			
Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Exceptions
Jan. 1–Dec. 31	15 inches	2	Trophy Trout Lakes (Round Valley Reservoir, Merrill Creek Reservoir), see page 20

Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring In-season Stocking Dates

All trout stocked waters (see listing on pages 16 and 17), **EXCEPT THOSE SPECIFIED BELOW**, are open to fishing beginning April 11, including the days they are stocked. Closures apply to all tributaries for 100 feet from the main channel. **There are no closures for ANY waters in the fall.**

TROUT STOCKED WATERS CLOSED TO FISHING (5 A.M. TO 5 P.M.) ON SPRING IN-SEASON STOCKING DATES		
Stocking Dates	Waterbody	Location
MONDAYS April 13, 20, 27 May 4, 11, 18, 25	Manasquan River	Rt. 9 bridge downstream to Bennetts Bridge, Manasquan WMA
	Metedeconk River, N/Br.	Aldrich Rd. bridge to Ridge Ave.
	Metedeconk River, S/Br.	Bennetts Mill dam to twin wooden foot bridge, opposite Lake Park Blvd. on South Lake Dr., Lakewood
	Rockaway River	Longwood Lake dam (Jefferson Twp.) to Jersey City Reservoir in Boonton
	Toms River	Rt. 528, Holmansville, to confluence with Maple Root Branch, and Rt. 70 bridge to Rt. 571 bridge (Exception: the section regulated as a Year-round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)
	Wallkill River	Lake Mohawk dam to Rt. 23, Hamburg
TUESDAYS April 14, 21, 28 May 5, 12, 19, 26	Pohatcong Creek	Rt. 31 to Delaware River
	Raritan River, S/Br.	Budd Lake dam to junction with N/Br. Raritan River (Exception: the section regulated as a Year-Round Trout Conservation Areas; see separate regulation.)
WEDNESDAYS April 15, 22, 29 May 6, 13, 20, 27	Raritan River, N/Br.	Peapack Rd. bridge in Far Hills to junction with S/Br. Raritan River
THURSDAYS April 16, 23, 30 May 7, 14, 21, 28	Black River	Rt. 206. Chester to the posted Black River Fish & Game Club property at the lower end of Hacklebarney State Park
	Paulinskill River, and E/Br. and W/Br.	Limecrest RR spur bridge on E/Br., Sparta Twp., and Warbasse Jct. Rd. (Rt. 663) on W./Br, Lafayette Twp., to Columbia Lake (Exception: the section of the E/Br. regulated as a Year Round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)
	Ramapo River	State line to Pompton Lake (excluding Potash Lake)
FRIDAYS April 17, 24 May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Big Flat Brook	100 ft. above Steam Mill bridge on Crigger Rd. in Stokes State Forest to Delaware River
	Musconetcong River	Lake Hopatcong dam to Delaware River including all mainstream impoundments except for Lake Musconetcong (Exception: the section regulated as a Seasonal Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)
	Pequest River	Source downstream to Delaware River (Exception: the section regulated as a Seasonal Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)
	Wanaque River	Greenwood Lake dam to Wanaque Reservoir dam then from Wanaque Ave., Pompton Lakes to jct. with Pequannock River, excluding the Wanaque and Monksville reservoirs and the section regulated as a wild trout stream.

Trout Conservation Areas (TCAs)

YEAR ROUND TCAs			
Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Restrictions (in effect year round)
Jan. 1–March 22	15 inches	1	1. Only artificial lures may be used. 2. Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3. Fishing is permitted during the spring in-season closures which apply to the river. All trout caught during these periods must be released immediately.
March 23–April 11 at 8 a.m.	Catch and release only		
April 11 at 8 a.m.–Dec. 31	15 inches	1 (see #3 at right)	
Year Round TCA Waterbody			Driving Directions *
Paulinskill, E/Br (Sussex County) Limecrest railroad spur bridge downstream to its confluence with W/Br Paulinskill at Warbasse Jct. (approx. 2.25 miles)			Rt. 94/206 N., north of Newton, to Rt. 94 (Morris Farm Rd.) to Warbasse Junction Rd. (Rt. 663) to Garrison Rd. to bridge. Pull-off parking. Or Rt. 206 to Limecrest Rd. (Rt. 669), for approx. 6 mi. to Rt. 648 to bridge; pull-off parking.
Raritan S/Br—Ken Lockwood Gorge (Hunterdon County) Section of S/Br within the Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area (approx. 2.5 miles)			Rt. 31 to Rt. 513. Turn onto Hoffman's Crossing Rd. Take first right after bridge. Follow into Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA. Road closed to through traffic. Park at upper and lower sections of WMA only.
Raritan S/Br—Claremont Stretch (Morris County) End of Angler's Anonymous property (private) downstream to confluence with Electric Brook (approx. 1.1 miles)			From light in Long Valley on Rt. 513 (Mill Rd.) and Rt. 517, go north on Schooley's Mt. Rd. Take immediate right after bridge onto Fairview Rd. Parking area approximately 1 mile on right. Follow path to river.
Toms River (Ocean County) End of Riverwood Park (Tom's River Twp.) downstream to Rt. 571 bridge (approx. 1 mile)			Rt. 195 (Exit 21) to Rts. 527/528 S. (Cedar Swamp Rd./ Veterans Hwy.) to Rt. 527 S. (Whitesville Rd.) to Riverwood Dr. to entrance of Riverview Park.
SEASONAL TCAs			
Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Restrictions
Jan. 1–March 22	15 inches	1	1. Only artificial lures may be used. 2. Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3. Pequest and Musconetcong Rivers—fishing is not permitted during the first six in-season stocking closure dates. (See Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring Stocking Dates, p. 18). Fishing is permitted during the last in-season stocking closure date (May 29), but all trout caught between 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. must immediately be released.
March 23–April 10	Catch and release only		
April 11 (12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m.)	Fishing prohibited		
April 11 at 8 a.m.–May 24	9 inches	6	
May 25–Dec. 31	15 inches	1	
Seasonal TCA Waterbody			Driving Directions *
Pequannock River (Morris/Passaic counties) Rt. 23 bridge, at Smoke Rise, downstream to the Rt. 23 bridge at Smith Mills (approx. 1.2 miles)			Under Rt. 23 overpass; small dirt parking lot (downstream boundary of conservation area).
Pequest River (Warren County) Conrail Railroad bridge, located upstream of the Pequest Trout Hatchery Access Road, downstream to Rt. 625 (Pequest Furnace Rd.) bridge (approx. 1.6 miles)			Rt. 31 to Rt. 46 E, approx. 4 mi. to Pequest Trout Hatchery; paved parking lot.
Musconetcong River (Warren County) Penwell Rd. bridge downstream to Point Mountain Rd. bridge (approx. 1.2 miles)			Rt. 31 to Rt. 57 E. to Point Mt. Rd. to bridge; small parking lot on right over bridge (downstream boundary).

* Directions to public-access portions on other trout stocked waters are available at www.NJFishandWildlife.com/accesscnty.htm

Fly Fishing-only Areas

Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Restrictions
Jan. 1–March 22	9 inches	4	1. Only artificial flies are allowed, which are expressly limited to dry flies, wet flies, bucktails, nymphs and streamers. Expressly prohibited are metal, plastic, or wooden lures, plugs, spinners, and flies with spinners attached or any multiple-hooked device. Spinning reels or any type of angling whereby a fly is cast directly from the reel are expressly prohibited. 2. Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3. After opening day and through May, fishing is prohibited from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on dates listed for stocking. (See Trout Water Closed to Fishing on Spring Stocking Dates, page 18.)
March 23–April 11 at 8 a.m.	Fishing prohibited		
April 11 at 8 a.m.–April 20 at 5 a.m.	9 inches	6	
April 20 at 5 a.m.–May 31	9 inches	6	
June 1–Dec. 31	9 inches	4	
Waterbody	Location		
Big Flat Brook (Sussex County)	Rt. 206 bridge downstream to the Roy Bridge on Mountain Rd., a distance of approx. 4 miles, except that portion known as the Blewett Tract		
Big Flat Brook (Blewett Tract) (Sussex County)	A 0.5 mile portion on the Big Flat Brook clearly defined by markers, which extends from the Three Bridges Rd. to a point upstream of the jct. of the Big Flat Brook and Little Flat Brook.		

Trout Fishing

2009 REGULATIONS

Trout Lakes

TROPHY TROUT LAKES				
Waterbody	Species	Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Merrill Creek Reservoir	Brown & Rainbow Trout	Open year round	15 inches	2
	Lake Trout	Jan. 1–Sept. 15 & Dec. 1–Dec. 31	15 inches	2
Round Valley Reservoir	Brown & Rainbow Trout	Open year round	15 inches	2
	Lake Trout	Jan. 1–Sept. 15 & Dec. 1–Dec. 31	15–20 inches AND ≥ 24 inches	3 AND 1
		Sept. 16–Nov. 30	Catch and release only	
HOLDOVER TROUT LAKES				
Waterbody	Species	Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Clinton Reservoir Lake Aeroflex* Lake Wawayanda* Sheppard Lake White Lake (Warren Co.)	Brook, Brown & Rainbow Trout and Hybrids	Jan. 1–March 22	9 inches	2
		March 23–April 11 at 8 a.m.	Catch and release only	
		April 11 at 8 a.m.–May 31	9 inches	4
		June 1–Dec. 31	9 inches	2
	Landlocked Atlantic Salmon *Waterbodies stocked with salmon	Jan. 1–March 22 & April 11 at 8 a.m.–Dec. 31	12 inches	2
	March 23–April 11 at 8 a.m.	Catch and release only		

Wild Trout Streams

Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Location	Restrictions
Jan. 1 – April 11 at 8 a.m. & Sept. 16 – Dec. 31	Catch and release only		Statewide	1. Only artificial lures may be used. 2. Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited.
April 11 at 8 a.m.–Sept. 15	9 inches	2	Statewide (exceptions below)	
April 11 at 8 a.m.–Sept. 15	12 inches Brown Trout 9 inches Rainbow, Brook	2 combined	Pequannock River, Van Campens Brook and Wanaque River (Wanaque Reservoir Dam downstream to Wanaque Ave. bridge (Pompton Lakes))	

Waterbodies (entire length unless otherwise indicated)

Bear Creek (Southtown) Bear Swamp Brook (Mahwah) Black Brook (Clinton WMA) Burnett Brook (Ralston) Cold Brook (Oldwick) Dark Moon Brook (also known as Bear Brook) (Johnsonburg) Dunfield Creek (Worthington S.P.) Flanders Brook (Flanders) Hance's Brook (Penwell) Hickory Run (Califon) India Brook (source to Mountainside Ave., Mendham)	Indian Grove Brook (Bernardsville) Jackson Brook (source to Hedden Park Lake, Mine Hill Twp.) Ledgewood Brook (Ledgewood) Little York Brook (Little York) Lomerson Brook (also known as Herzog Brook) (Pottersville) Merrill Creek (Stewartsville) Mill Brook (Montague) N/Br. Rockaway Creek (Mountainville) Parker Brook (Stokes S.F.) Passaic River (source to Rt. 202, Bernardsville)	Pequannock River (Oak Ridge Rd. bridge in Newark Watershed, downstream to railroad bridge immediately upstream of Charlottesburg Res.) Rhineharts Brook (Hacklebarney S.P.) Rocky Run (Clinton Twp.) Saddle River (state line to Lake St., Upper Saddle River) Stephensburg Creek (Stephensburg) Stony Brook (Stokes S.F.) Stony Brook (Washington Twp., Morris Co.)	Tetertown Brook (Tetertown) Trout Brook (Hacklebarney S.P.) Turkey Brook (Mt. Olive) Van Campens Brook (Del. Water Gap) Wanaque River (Wanaque Reservoir Dam downstream to Wanaque Ave. bridge—Pompton Lakes) West Brook (source downstream to Windbeam Club property) Whippary River (source to Tingley Rd., Mendham Twp.) Willoughby Brook (also known as Buffalo Hollow Brook) (Clinton Twp.)
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Boundary Waters (see page 24)

Locations	Species	Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Delaware River	All trout species	April 18–Oct. 15 (Trout caught at other times must be released immediately.)	No minimum	5



▶▶ PLACES TO FISH

For a great reference on New Jersey places to fish, including ponds, lakes, reservoirs, rivers and streams, visit our Web site at: www.NJFishandWildlife.com/fishplc.htm or call (609) 292-2965.

Take me fishing!

The memories will last a lifetime.



New Jersey's

Free Freshwater Fishing Days

— June 6 and 7, 2009 —

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.

Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Fish and Wildlife

Annual Open House and Fishermen's Flea Market

— April 4 and 5, 2009 —

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**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

Teen Anglers Youth Days

1st Annual

6th Annual

Hackettstown

Pequest

— June 2009 —
(TBA)

— July 25, 2009 —

The 2009 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

Tuckerton Seaport
Capt. George Ward
captgeorgecms@aol.com



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.

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) 637-4125 or visit www.NJFishandWildlife.com.

Fishing Regulations

SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS










Certain waters are closed to fishing for all species from March 23 to April 11, 2009 at 8 a.m. because of trout stocking.

Refer to pages 16–18 for complete lists and exceptions. **For Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, see regulations on pages 24–25.**

	SEASON	LOCATION	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
LARGEMOUTH & SMALLMOUTH BASS				
 Largemouth Bass  Smallmouth Bass	Jan. 1–April 14	Statewide (exceptions below)	12 inches	5 combined
	April 15–June 15 Catch & Release only (all waters)	Lunker Bass Lakes: Assunpink, Parvin, Delaware lakes, Splitrock Reservoir	15 inches	3 combined
	June 16–Dec. 31	Conservation Regulations: Ryker Lake	15 inches	2 combined
NORTHERN PIKE, TIGER MUSKY, MUSKELLUNGE				
 Northern Pike  Muskellunge	Open year round	Statewide	Northern Pike: 24 inches	2
	March 20–May 20 are Catch & Release only for Echo Lake Reservoir, Mercer Lake, Mountain Lake, Monksville Reservoir	Statewide (exceptions below)	Tiger Musky & Muskellunge: 36 inches	1 combined
		Trophy Musky Waters: Mountain & Echo Lake reservoirs	Tiger Musky & Muskellunge: 40 inches	
CHAIN PICKEREL AND REDFIN PICKEREL				
 Chain Pickerel	Open year round	Statewide	15 inches	5 combined
WALLEYE				
 Walleye	Jan. 1–Feb 29 March 1–April 30 Catch & Release only May 1–Dec. 31	Statewide	18 inches	3
STRIPED BASS (freshwater only) Striped bass regulations are subject to change. Consult our Web site www.NJFishandWildlife.com and the news media for updates.				
 Striped Bass	March 1–Dec. 31	Statewide	28 inches	2
HYBRID STRIPED BASS (freshwater only) Striped bass regulations are subject to change. Consult our Web site www.NJFishandWildlife.com and the news media for updates.				
 Hybrid Striped Bass	Open year round	Statewide (exceptions below)	16 inches	2
	March 1–Dec. 31	Raritan River (downstream of Duke Island Park dam)	28 inches	2

Fishing Regulations

SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS

	SEASON	LOCATION	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
AMERICAN SHAD				
 American Shad	Open year round	Statewide	No minimum size	6
CHANNEL CATFISH				
 Channel Catfish	Open year round	Statewide	12 inches	5
CRAPPIE (BLACK AND WHITE)				
 Crappie	Open year round	Statewide	8 inches	10 combined
BANDED, BLACK-BANDED, BLUE SPOTTED AND MUD SUNFISH				
 Banded Sunfish*	Closed	Statewide	Protected	0
 Black-Banded Sunfish*				
 Blue Spotted Sunfish*				
 Mud Sunfish				
OTHER SPECIES				
 Rock Bass, White Bass, White Perch, Yellow Perch, Sunfish (see above for sunfish exceptions), Bullheads, White Catfish, Suckers, Carp, Bowfin	Open year round	Statewide (exceptions below)	No minimum size	25 combined
		Conservation Regulation Ryker Lake	Sunfish: 7 inches	10 combined
		Conservation Regulation Rainbow Lake (Salem Co.)	Yellow Perch: No minimum size	10
			Sunfish: 7 inches	10 combined
FRESHWATER BAITFISH (See page 26 for complete description of gear types and restrictions)				
Alewife (anadromous and land-locked forms), Blueback Herring, Golden Shiner, Banded Killifish, Mummichog, Spotfin Killifish, Rainwater Killifish, American Brook Lamprey, Fathead Minnow, Bluntnose Minnow, Stonecat, Tadpole Madtom, Margined Madtom, All Shiners, Daces, Minnows, Gizzard Shad and American Eel	Open year round Exceptions Baitfish may not be taken in trout stocked waters from March 22 to June 15	Statewide	No minimum Exception American Eel: 6 inches	35 combined

* Illustrations by Ted Walke, PA Fish and Boat Commission

Fishing Regulations

DELAWARE RIVER

This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. All persons are reminded that the statutes, code and regulations are the legal authorities. **Red text indicates a regulation change.**



Delaware River

Nicholas A. Tonelli

- New Jersey and Pennsylvania fishing licenses are both recognized when fishing the Delaware River from a boat or either shoreline. This applies to the main stem of the river only.
- Anglers may launch a boat from either shore and on return, may have in possession any fish which may be legally taken according to the regulations of the state where the landing is made.
- No more than two rods, each with one line, or two hand lines—or one of each—may be used. No more than three single hooks or three treble hooks per line.
- To protect spawning striped bass, from the Calhoun Street bridge near Trenton downstream to the Commodore Barry Bridge at Bridgeport, non-offset circle hooks must be used when using bait with a #2 sized hook or larger, from April 1 to May 30.
- Spears (not mechanically propelled) and bow and arrows may be used to take shad, eel, carp, sucker, herring and bullhead except within 825 feet of an eel weir. A valid fishing license is required.
- Baitfish may be taken and possessed for personal use and are not to be bartered or sold.
- **A Delaware fishing license is now required for anglers aged 16 and over fishing the Delaware Bay and Delaware River between the upstream tip of Artificial Island and the Delaware-Pennsylvania state line. In that section of the river, the Delaware state boundary extends to the New Jersey shoreline. However, when fishing from shore in New Jersey along that section of the river, a Delaware fishing license is not required. Delaware fishing license information can be found at <http://www.fw.delaware.gov/Fisheries/Pages/NewFishingLicense.aspx>.**

Species	Open Seasons	Minimum Length	Daily Limit
Bass, Largemouth & Smallmouth	Jan. 1–April 17	12 inches	5 combined
	June 13–Dec.31		
	April 18–June 12	Catch and release only	Catch and release only
Eel, American*	Open year round	Pennsylvania: 8 inches (but 6–8 inches for baitfish) New Jersey: 6 inches	50
Herring, Alewife and Blueback	Open year round	No minimum	35 combined
Muskellunge & Hybrids	Open year round	40 inches	1
Pickereel, Chain	Open year round	12 inches	5
Pike, Northern	Open year round	24 inches	2
Shad, American	Open year round	No minimum	6
Shad, Hickory	Closed	—	—
Striped Bass & Hybrids (upstream of Calhoun St. Bridge)	March 1–Dec. 31	28 inches	2
Striped Bass & Hybrids (downstream of Calhoun St. Bridge)	March 1–30	28 inches	2
	June 1–Dec.31		
Sturgeon, Atlantic and Shortnose	Closed	—	—
Trout	April 18–Oct. 15	No minimum	5
Walleye	Open year round	18 inches	3
All Other Freshwater Species	Open year round	No minimum	No limit
Baitfish*	Open year round	No minimum	50

- A listing of fishing access locations along the Delaware River is available at Fish and Wildlife's Web site www.NJFishandWildlife.com, under Freshwater Fishing.
- The newly updated Delaware River Basin Commission recreation maps are available for \$25. An order form is available online at www.state.nj.us/drbc/recreation.htm.
- Information for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is available online at www.nps.gov/dewa/.
- Pennsylvania also enforces an 8-inch minimum on American Eel. Eel used as bait must be at least 6 inches and no greater than 8 inches in length.
- * Regulations for American eel are different for Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In Pennsylvania, American eel must be 6 to 8 inches in length when harvested as baitfish; otherwise, the minimum size for Pennsylvania is 8 inches, with a limit of 50 for both uses. In New Jersey, American eel must be at least 6 inches in length, with a limit of 50. American eels brought to shore must conform to the regulations of the state (NJ or PA) in which they are landed.



Greenwood Lake

Luke H. Gordon

- New York and New Jersey fishing licenses are both recognized anywhere on the lake or along the shoreline.
- Fishing is permitted 24 hours a day.
- In compliance with New York regulations, only certified virus-free baitfish may be transported to, or used on, the portion of Greenwood Lake owned by the State of New York. Anglers are urged to use only certified virus-free baitfish when fishing any portion of Greenwood Lake.
- Bow and arrow fishing for all carp, sucker, herring, catfish and eel is permitted. A valid fishing license is required.
- No more than five tip-ups and two hand-held devices may be used when ice fishing. All devices that are not hand held must be plainly marked with the name and address of the angler.

Species	Open Seasons	Minimum Length	Daily Limit
Bass, Largemouth & Smallmouth	Jan 1–April 14, 2009 June 16–Dec.31, 2009*	12 inches	5 combined
	April 15–June 15, 2009*	Catch and release only	Catch and release only
	Open year round	12 inches	5
Catfish, Channel	Open year round	8 inches	10 combined
Crappie, Black & White	Open year round	36 inches	1
Muskellunge & Hybrids	Open year round	No minimum	50
Perch, Yellow	Open year round	15 inches	5
Pickereel, Chain	Open year round	No minimum	50 combined
Sunfish	Jan. 1–Feb. 28 May 1–Dec.31	18 inches	3
Walleye	March 1– April 30	Catch and release only	
	Open year round	No minimum	No limit
All Other Species	Open year round	No minimum	No limit

* In New York, the catch and release season for bass is extended: Dec. 1, 2008 to June 15, 2009.

Additional information is available at the New York DEC's Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources Web site at www.dec.ny.gov.

► FRESHWATER FISHERIES FORUMS



1st Forum:
Feb. 28, 2009; 10 a.m.
Batsto Village Visitor's Center in Wharton State Forest

2nd Forum:
Dec. 5, 2009; 10 a.m.
Hackettstown Hatchery, Warren County

Come and share your views and recommendations for the future of freshwater fisheries in New Jersey and learn about current research, management and fish culture activities!

The forum at Hackettstown will include a tour of the fish production facilities.

For more information or to pre-register (helpful, but not required) please call (908) 236-2118 or send an e-mail to njfwfish@earthlink.net. E-mails should include name, address, phone number and number of people attending.

Presented by NJ Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife

This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. All persons are reminded that the statutes, code and regulations are the legal authorities.

Red text indicates a regulation change.

See separate regulations for Delaware River (p. 24).

For marine waters, see Marine Issue of *New Jersey Fish & Wildlife Digest*.

Baitfish Regulations

BAITFISH SPECIES

Baitfish species: alewife (anadromous and landlocked Forms), blueback herring, golden shiner, banded killifish, mummichog, spotfin killifish, rainwater killifish, American brook lamprey, fathead minnow, blunt-nose minnow, stonecat, tadpole madtom, margined madtom, all shiners, daces, minnows, chubs and the American eel.

In the Delaware River between New Jersey and Pennsylvania, alewife and blueback herring (anadromous and landlocked forms) are regulated as food fish with a one-day possession limit of 35 in aggregate.

(See separate regulations for boundary waters, p. 24–25.)

Season	Location	Minimum size	Daily limit
Open year round Exception Season closed March 22–June 15 on trout stocked waters and special regulation trout areas	Statewide (freshwaters)	No minimum size Exception American Eel: 6 inches	35 per day species combined

Notes: Any person with a valid fishing license (or those under 16 and those 70 years or older) may take baitfish in fresh waters. Possession limit is one day's limit, regardless of the intent to use these fish. Baitfish may be taken from the fresh waters

of the state in numbers greater than 35 per day, in lakes over 250 acres, under a special permit issued by Fish and Wildlife at its discretion.

Contact (908) 236-2118 for application information.

Gear	Gear Description
Seine	Not over 50 feet long in ponds and lakes over 100 acres; in all other waters not over 30 feet in length, or half the width of the stream at point of use, whichever is less. Exception: In trout-stocked waters and special regulation trout areas a seine may not be more than 10 feet in length and 4 feet in depth.
Minnow Trap	Not larger than 24 inches in length with a funnel mouth no greater than 2 inches in diameter.
Umbrella Net	No greater than 3.5 feet square.
Dip Net	Not more than 24 inches in diameter; may be used only for alewife or blueback herring.
Cast Net	No greater than 8 feet in diameter; may be used only in streams that are not trout-stocked or special regulation trout areas (may not be used in lakes).
Hook And Line	Maximum of nine single hooks or three hooks with three burrs per contrivance on all waters except the Delaware River where only three single hooks are permitted.

Turtle And Frog Regulations

Species	Season	Location	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Snapping Turtle	January 1–April 30 June 16–December 31	Statewide	No minimum	3 per day
Bull Frog and Green Frog	January 1–March 31 July 1–December 31	Statewide	No minimum	15 per day, combined

MEANS OF TAKE

Any person with a valid fishing license or those entitled to fish without a license may take snapping turtles, bull frogs, and green frogs by means of spears, hooks, dip nets (not more than 24 inches in diameter), traps or by hand. Snapping turtles may not be taken with a gun or bow and arrow.

Snapping turtles, bull frogs, and green frogs may be taken in numbers greater than the daily limit under a special permit issued by Fish and Wildlife at its discretion. Contact (908) 236-2118 for application information.

MOTOR BOAT REGISTRATION

Motor Boat Title and Boating Operator Requirements

Registration

Most boats must be registered to operate on New Jersey waterways. All titled boats must be registered also. Any boat (including jet skis and non-titled watercraft), mechanically propelled (motorized), regardless of length, must be registered. Boats greater than 12 feet in length, regardless of propulsion means, must be titled and registered at an MVC office.

Boats and marine equipment which **need not be** registered:

- Those not based in New Jersey or operating here less than 180 consecutive days
- Ship's lifeboats
- Non-motorized vessels used exclusively on small lakes and ponds on private property
- Racing vessels with New Jersey State Marine Police permit
- Non-motorized inflatable device, surfboard, racing shell, dinghy, canoe or kayak
- Non-motorized vessel less than 12 feet in length

Title

For use on New Jersey waterways, all boats more than 12 feet in length must be titled, with the exception of ship's lifeboat, canoe, kayak, inflatable, surfboard, rowing scull, racing shell, tender/dinghy used for direct transportation between a vessel and shore for no other purposes.

For more information, visit the MVC Web site at www.nj.gov and click on the Motor Vehicle Commission link, or stop by an MVC office or call (609) 292-6500.

OPERATOR REQUIREMENTS

Motor Boat and Jet Ski Operator License

A motorboat/jet ski operator license is required to operate these on fresh, non-tidal waters such as lakes, creeks and rivers for those 16 years or older. Visit the Motor Vehicle Commission Web site or call to verify if you must take a boating safety course.

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission

Boat Operators License
(888) 486-3339 toll free in NJ or
(609) 292-6500 from out-of-state
www.nj.gov/mvc/

Boating safety courses

(800) 336-2628

BoatUS Foundation

www.BoatUS.com/courseline

For New Jersey State Police, boating laws clarification, call (609) 882-2000, or visit their Marine Services Bureau online at:
www.nj.gov/lps/njsp/maritime/index.html

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Fishing License Lines

2009 REGULATIONS

A fishing license is required to fish the fresh waters of the state. Locations listed below mark the change from salt water (license not required) to fresh water. A fishing license is required at and upstream of these locations.

ATLANTIC COUNTY

Absecon Creek—Dam at Lower Atlantic City Reservoir
Great Egg Harbor River—Power lines at confluence of Gravelly Run
Middle River—None—all saline water
Mullica River—Line between Seventh Ave., Sweetwater, and ramp at Crowleys Landing
Nacote Creek—Port Republic dam
Patcong Creek—Bargaintown Lake dam
South River—Power lines immediately below Rt. 50
Tuckahoe River—First northerly tributary downstream of Rt. 49 bridge (McNeals Branch)

BERGEN COUNTY

Hackensack River—Cedar Lane Bridge between Hackensack and Teaneck
Hudson River—None—all saline water
Passaic River—Required whole length

BURLINGTON COUNTY

Assisunk Creek—Required whole length
Bass River State—Fir Bridge on Stage Rd. in Bass River State Forest
Batsto River—Required whole length
Blacks Creek—Required whole length
Crosswicks Creek—Required whole length
Delaware River—Required whole length
Mullica River—Line between Seventh Ave., Sweetwater, and ramp at Crowleys Landing
Pennaauken Creek—Required whole length
Pompeston Creek—Required whole length
Rancocas Creek—Required whole length
Swedes Run—Required whole length
Wading River—Charcoal Landing, Chips Folly Campground

CAMDEN COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

CAPE MAY COUNTY

Bidwells Creek—None—all saline water
Cedar Swamp Creek—None—all saline water
Dennis Creek—None—all saline water
East Creek—100 ft. below East Creek Lake dam, Eldora
Tuckahoe River—First northerly tributary downstream of lower Rt. 49 bridge (McNeals Br.)
West Creek—100 feet below West Creek Lake dam (Pickle Factory Pond)

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Andrews Creek—None—all saline water
Back Creek—None—all saline water
Cedar Creek—100 ft. downstream of Cedar Lake dam
Cohansey River—Rt. 49 bridge at Bridgeton
Dividing Creek—Rt. 555 bridge
Fishing Creek—None—all saline water
Fortescue Cr./Branch of Oranoken Cr.—None—all saline water
Manumuskin Creek—Required whole length
Maurice River—Mouth of Manumuskin Creek near Port Elizabeth
Menantico Creek—Required whole length
Mill Creek—Tributary of Cohansey—Rt. 553 bridge, Fairton
Muskee Creek—S. side of bridge on Weathersby Rd.
Nantuxent Creek (Pages Run)—Rt. 553 north of Frames Corner
Oranoken Creek—Whitcar Mill, North of Beaver dam
Oyster Creek—None—all saline water

Riggins Ditch—Rt. 47 bridge
Sow and Pigs Branch Nantuxent—None—all saline water
Stow Creek—Buckhorn Rd. bridge, Jericho
Straight Creek—None—all saline water
West Creek—100 ft. below West Creek Lake dam (Pickle Factory Pond)

ESSEX COUNTY

Passaic River—Erie Railroad bridge between Newark (at Verona Ave.) and Kearny
Peddie Ditch—None—all saline water

GLOUCESTER COUNTY

Big Timber Creek—Required whole length
Delaware River—Commodore Barry bridge at Bridgeport
Mantua Creek—Required whole length
Oldmans Creek—Rt. 295 bridge
Raccoon Creek—Required whole length
Woodbury Creek—Required whole length

HUDSON COUNTY

Hackensack River—None—all saline water
Hudson River—None—all saline water
Passaic River—Railroad bridge between Newark (at Verona Ave.) and Kearny

HUNTERDON COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

MERCER COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Cheesequake Creek—Dam at Cheesequake Lake, Cheesequake State Park
Lawrence Brook—N.J. Turnpike bridge, East Brunswick
Raritan River—Landing Lane bridge, New Brunswick
South River—Rt. 527 bridge (New Brunswick Old Bridge Tpk.)
Woodbridge River—N.J. Turnpike bridge

MONMOUTH COUNTY

Black Creek—Spillway at Ocean Rd.
Branchport Creek—Mouth of Turtle Mill Brook
Deal Lake—Top of dam
Hockhockson (Pine) Brook—Garden State Parkway northbound bridge
Little Silver Creek—Little Silver Creek Brook
Manasquan River—Bennetts bridge, Manasquan Wildlife Management Area
Matawan Creek—Lefferts Lake dam
Oceanport Creek—Mouth of Husky Brook
Parkers Creek—Mouth of Parkers Creek Brook
Shark River—Remsen Mills Rd.
Swimming River—Swimming River Rd. bridge
Wreck Pond Creek—Rt. 71 bridge

MORRIS COUNTY

License required on all waters

OCEAN COUNTY

Beaver Dam Creek—Rt. 88 bridge
Cedar Creek—Rt. 9 bridge
Cedar Run—Rt. 9 bridge
Dinner Point Creek—None—all saline water
Double Creek—None—all saline water
Forked River—All branches Rt. 9

Gunning River—None—all saline water
Jakes Branch—Above Atlantic City Blvd.
Jeffreys Creek—Ocean Gate Rd. to Ocean Gate
Kettle Creek—Rt. 549 bridge
Lake of the Lilies—Entire lake
Long Swamp Creek—Washington St. bridge, Toms River
Manahawkin Creek—Dams for Manahawkin WMA impoundments bayside
Metedeconk River—Rt. 70 bridge, Laurelton
Mill Creek—Mouth of Creek at lagoons in Beach Haven West
Mill Creek—Pine Beach—Ocean Gate Road
Oyster Creek—Rt. 9 bridge
Parkers Run—None—all saline water
Potters Creek—None—all saline water
Stouts Creek—None—all saline water
Stouts Creek S. Br.—Bayside East Parkway
Toms River—Garden State Parkway, northbound bridge
Tuckerton Creek—Dam at Rt. 9 bridge
Waretown Creek—Rt. 9 bridge
West Creek—Rt. 9 bridge

PASSAIC COUNTY

License required on all waters

SALEM COUNTY

Alloway Creek—Rt. 540 bridge at Alloway
Black Ditch—None—all saline water
Delaware River—None—all saline water
Fishing Creek—None—all saline water
Hope Creek—None—all saline water
Mad Horse Creek—None—all saline water
Mill Creek—None—all saline water
Oldmans Creek—Rt. 295 southbound bridge
Salem River—Dupont dam near Cedar Crest Manor
Salem Canal—Dam at Deepwater
Stow Creek—Buckhorn Rd. bridge, Jericho
Straight Ditch—None—all saline water

SOMERSET COUNTY

License required on all waters

SUSSEX COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

UNION COUNTY

Elizabeth River—West Grand St., Elizabeth
Great Ditch—None—all saline water
Morses Creek—Old Morses Mill Rd.
Oyster Creek—None—all saline water
Peddie Ditch—None—all saline water
Piles Creek—None—all saline water
Rahway River—Lawrence St. (Rt. 514), Rahway

WARREN COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

IMPORTANT FOOTNOTES:

1. Absence of a river, creek, brook or other waterway from this list does not make it exempt from requiring a license to fish the fresh waters.
2. Names of waters conform to those given on the United States Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Topographic Series Maps.

Regulations for use of wildlife management areas (WMAs) are established by the Division of Fish and Wildlife with penalties of not less than \$50 nor more than \$1,500.

Information on these regulations and permit applications may be obtained by writing to New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, P.O. Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400.

Fish and Wildlife may revoke any permit or other authorization issued for violation or due cause.

The following are prohibited: camping, swimming, picnicking, dumping, cutting or damaging vegetation, alcoholic beverages and fires.

Restricted Hours

Wildlife Management Areas are closed from 9 p.m. until 5 a.m. unless engaged in lawful hunting, fishing or trapping activities.

Special permission may be granted for Fish and Wildlife approved activities.

Motor Vehicles

No person shall operate an unregistered vehicle on roads under the control of the Division of Fish and Wildlife. All motor vehicles are restricted to established public roads and parking areas.

The use of dog sleds and dog carts, off-road vehicles, ATVs, trailbikes or snowmobiles is prohibited on all Wildlife Management Areas unless authorized by Fish and Wildlife.

Target Practice

Only archery, shotgun, muzzleloading shotgun, muzzleloading rifle and .22 caliber rimfire rifle shooting is allowed in designated hunter training ranges according to posted regulations at the training area. Other target practice is allowed only with permission from the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Field Trials

Permits for use of Wildlife Management Areas for running of field trials may be granted by Fish and Wildlife. Apply for a permit by calling (609) 259-2132.

Dog Training and Exercising

Dogs may be exercised or trained on any WMA from Sept. 1 to April 30. All dogs must be properly licensed. Select WMAs with designated dog training areas also permit dogs to be exercised or trained from May 1 to Aug. 31. For more information, see the hunting issue of the *New Jersey Fish and Wildlife Digest* or call (609) 984-0547.

Outboard Motors

Only electric motors are allowed on freshwater lakes and ponds owned by New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife with the exception of Union Lake, where outboard motors not exceeding 9.9 hp. may be used. On Prospertown Lake, only manually operated boats and canoes are allowed.

Horseback Riding

Horseback riding is allowed only on designated WMAs with written permission. Apply online at www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ/. Horseback riding permits should be displayed on outer clothing while riding. For more information on horseback riding permits, call (609) 259-2132.

Fishing Tournament

Any club or organization that would like to use a New Jersey wildlife management area for fishing tournaments must apply for and secure a permit from Fish and Wildlife. No fee is required. Applications will be accepted in January at Fish and Wildlife's Southern Region office, 220 Anchor Rd., Sicklerville, NJ 08081 at (856) 629-4950.

Boat Ramp Maintenance Permit

Any vehicle used to transport or launch a vessel or water conveyance on the following WMAs must have affixed to the lower corner of the driver's side rear window a boat ramp maintenance permit, receipt from a valid hunting, fishing or trapping license, or a photocopy of a valid hunting, fishing or trapping license. Be sure your Conservation ID number is clearly displayed; all other personal information may be blacked out for reasons of privacy. The boat ramp maintenance permit fee is \$15, available from a license agent or at Fish and Wildlife's Internet sales site, www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ/.

Persons 70 years and older are not required to obtain a boat ramp maintenance permit and need no license, but must affix to their window proof of age, such as a former license displaying your date of birth.

1. Round Valley Angler Access
2. Assunpink
3. Dennis Creek
4. Tuckahoe
5. Mad Horse Creek
6. Union Lake
7. Menantico Ponds
8. Prospertown Lake

Create Your Own WMA Map

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has a Web-based tool called i-MapNJ. Those with Internet access can create maps for any Wildlife Management Area. i-MapNJ provides a wealth of other environmental information, too!

This interactive program is updated on a regular basis so most of the latest information is available.

To access i-MapNJ, go to the DEP's Web site at www.state.nj.us/dep. Click the i-MapNJ button in the left column.

Those without Internet access can request a specific wildlife management area by calling (609) 984-0547.

Recent Land Acquisitions Related to Freshwater Fisheries Resources On New Jersey Wildlife Management Areas

Wildlife Management Area	County	Land Description
Lockatong Creek	Hunterdon	Kingwood Twp.—1. 337 acres, with 2,800 ft. frontage on this trout-stocked creek. On-site parking under development; 2. 70 acres with 1,400 ft. stream frontage (roadside parking along Thatcher Rd.)
Musconetcong River	Hunterdon	Holland Twp.—70 acre parcel near Finesville adds 700 ft. frontage along this trout-stocked river. Limited roadside parking along Bellis Rd. On-site parking under development.
Ken Lockwood Gorge (South Branch of the Raritan River)	Hunterdon	Lebanon Twp.—1. 37 acres on Rt. 513 adjacent to existing WMA adding 1,000 ft. frontage along river's west bank (parking available on River Rd.); 2. 36 acres upstream from the Gorge with 2,000 ft. frontage along this trout-stocked river plus 500 ft. section of Hickory Run (a wild trout stream). Off-site parking along River Rd. on east side of river (potential for on-site parking under review).
Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery	Warren	Hackettstown—Long sought-after addition of 85 acres, located northwest of hatchery on west side of Grand Ave., acquired to protect critical watershed area upstream of hatchery. Protection of quality and quantity of water flowing into the hatchery is critical to this facility's long-term fish production.

Note: Wildlife Management Area maps (in PDF format) are available at NJFishandWildlife.com/wmaland.htm.

Fish Identification

NEW JERSEY FRESHWATER FISHES



Brook Trout



Rainbow Trout



Brown Trout



Lake Trout



Landlocked Atlantic Salmon



Northern Pike



Muskellunge



Chain Pickerel



Redfin Pickerel



Walleye



Yellow Perch



Hybrid Striped Bass



Striped Bass



White Perch



Largemouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass



Redbreast Sunfish



Pumpkinseed Sunfish



Bluegill Sunfish



Black Crappie



White Crappie



Channel Catfish



White Catfish



Brown Bullhead



White Sucker



American Shad



Carp

Be a Responsible Angler

In recent years several fish pathogens (disease-causing microbes) have spread through various regions of the United States and Canada causing fish kills and creating a major concern 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 detected in our own waters, in Lake Hopatcong, and in 2007 was found in Greenwood Lake, Assunpink Lake, Union Lake and Cooper River Park Lake, Farrington Lake and Spruce Run Reservoir in 2007.

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

▶▶ ANGLER ETHICS

1. **Keep Only the Fish Needed**
2. **Do Not Pollute—Properly Dispose of Trash**
3. **Sharpen Angling and Boating Skills**
4. **Observe Angling and Boating Safety Regulations**
5. **Respect Other Anglers' Rights**
6. **Respect Property Owners' Rights**
7. **Pass on Knowledge and Angling Skills**
8. **Support Local Conservation Efforts**
9. **Never Stock Fish or Plants into Public Waters**
10. **Promote the Sport of Angling**

What Anglers Can Do To Help

Angler and boater cooperation is critical to minimizing the potential for the spread of fish disease and other aquatic invasive species. Follow these guidelines:

- 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 wearing rubber soled boots instead of felt.
- Remove all mud, aquatic plants and animals from all gear, boats, motors and trailers before leaving the body of water where you've been boating or fishing.
- Drain your livewell, bilge and bait tanks before leaving the body of water where you've been boating or fishing.
- 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 bleach for 10 gallons of water). For livewells, use ¼ cup bleach per gallon of water. Make sure the contact time with bleach is at least five minutes. (In a waterbody known to contain VHS, clean and disinfect livewells 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 dry fully in the sun for four to six hours.
- Handle fish as gently as possible if they are to be released.
- Refrain from hauling fish for long period in livewells if fish are to be released.
- Stage weigh-in tournaments during cooler weather, so fish caught will be stressed less. Utilize "paper" tournaments during hot weather, with anglers measuring and immediately releasing the fish.

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New Jersey's **STOCKING PROGRAMS**

TROUT STOCKING

Raised with pride at New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife's Pequest State Fish Hatchery

SPRING

- Over 570,000 brook, brown and rainbow trout
- Average size: 10.5 inches and 1/2 pound
- An additional 6,000 breeders 15–21 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 11, 2009
- Stocking continues for seven weeks following Opening Day

FALL

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

WINTER

- All large two year olds, measuring 15–16 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!

WARMWATER STOCKING

Raised with pride at New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife's Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery

MUSKELLUNGE—8-12"

- Carnegie Lake (870)
- Cooper River Park Lake (440)
- D & R Canal—10 mile (300)
- Deal Lake (650)
- Echo Lake Reservoir (837)
- Furnace Lake (328)
- Greenwood Lake (4,050)
- Lake Hopatcong (2,940)
- Lake Shenandoah (350)
- Little Swartswood Lake (569)
- Manasquan Reservoir (2,024)
- Mercer Lake (663)
- Monksville Reservoir (1,120)
- Mountain Lake (535)

NORTHERN PIKE—6"

- Budd Lake (4,250)
- Cranberry Lake (2,250)
- Deal Lake (2,620)
- Farrington Lake (3,070)
- Millstone River (1,720)
- Passaic River (3,590)
- Pompton Lake (2,410)
- Pompton River (3,150)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (8,060)

WALLEYE—2-4"

- Canistear Reservoir (7,375)
- Delaware River (56,595)
- Greenwood Lake (68,900)
- Lake Hopatcong (138,364)
- Monksville Reservoir (45,470)
- Swartswood Lake (10,564)

HYBRID STRIPED BASS—4"

- Lake Hopatcong (29,550)
- Manasquan Reservoir (7,454)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (15,342)

SMALLMOUTH BASS—2"

- Manasquan Reservoir (4,000)
- Lake Audrey (3,000)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (6,740)
- Union Lake (5,000)

LAKE TROUT—8.5"

- Merrill Creek Reservoir (3,400)
- Monksville Reservoir (3,000)

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



Tom Bissonette, Sr. Fisheries Worker

Asian Swamp Eel

Christopher Smith, Principal Fisheries Biologist

Another aquatic invasive species was confirmed in 2008: the Asian swamp eel. The species was confirmed by New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's fisheries biologists and verified by the Academy of Natural Sciences. Fish and Wildlife's Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries is conducting an ongoing evaluation to determine the extent of the Asian swamp eel's distribution and abundance. Fortunately, its presence appears to be limited to one privately-owned location, Silver Lake, a 10-acre waterbody located in Gibbsboro.

Surprisingly, the Asian swamp eel is not a true eel. They are scaleless and have an elongated body with a tapering tail and blunt snout. Their teeth appear like bristles and they have one V-shaped gill located beneath the head. Although generally similar in appearance to an American eel—a true New Jersey native—the swamp eel has no fins. In contrast, American eel have pectoral fins, a long-rayed dorsal fin, anal and caudal fins. (At first glance the American eel also appears scaleless since their scales are imbedded.) Swamp eel also may be mistaken for lamprey, however lamprey do not have jaws and they possess an ovoid mouth. Lamprey, like American eel, also have distinct dorsal and caudal fins; the lamprey has seven gill openings on each side.


Unlike the American eel, the Asian swamp eel life cycle takes place exclusively in freshwater. All young hatch as female. As adults, some females develop into males, however, males can change back to females if female densities are low. Reproduction can occur year round.

These invasive eels are nocturnal and rarely observed by people. Preferred habitat includes shallow wetlands, stagnant waters, marshes, streams, rivers, ditches, canals, lakes, reservoirs and ponds. It was first believed that swamp eels could not tolerate cold temperatures; it is now known they can survive in ice-covered lakes and can tolerate a wide range of oxygen levels. Swamp eels can absorb up to 25 percent of their oxygen from the

air cutaneously (through the skin). They prefer freshwater habitats, but can tolerate brackish and saline conditions.

It is likely the Asian swamp eel was introduced to North America by aquarium release, stocking as a food source or escaping from fish farms during flooding events. The origin of the fish in Silver Lake is unknown.

Asian swamp eels eat a wide range of prey including fish, shrimp, crayfish, frogs, turtle eggs and aquatic invertebrates. Although the ecological impact in North American waters is relatively unknown, some effects are documented in other regions of the world where the eel has become established. There is concern that swamp eel competition with native aquatic species for food may displace the natives, as the swamp eel is known for its voracious appetite.

The presence of the invasive Asian swamp eel serves as a warning that there can be ecological damage inflicted from the careless introduction of a non-native species. A permit from New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife is required prior to the release of any species, native or not. The permit serves to prevent introductions such as the Asian swamp eel. 



▶▶ 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.

Do NOT Release

SNAKEHEAD—INVASIVE



Note long anal fin.

FLATHEAD CATFISH



Must have all 3 characteristics:

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

OK to Release

BOWFIN—NATIVE



Note short anal fin.

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



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

How to Identify Zebra Mussels

- 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 If You Find a Zebra Mussel

- 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

Don't Help Them Spread!

- **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

Courtesy of University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute



BOWFISHING FOR **carp**

MONSTERS LURKING IN THE NIGHT

By Mark Boriek, Principal Fisheries Biologist

Bowfishing offers anglers an exciting alternative to traditional forms of angling, and bowfishing for carp is as good as it gets! Few realize the tremendous size of carp lurking in the shallows of a waterbody near you, especially at night.

These nighttime prowlers easily reach 20-odd pounds, and true trophies weigh in at a phenomenal 50 pounds or more. A modest investment in a bow, reel and some arrows will pay dividends with memories that will last a lifetime.

Two species of carp, common carp and grass carp (or white amur), reside in New Jersey waters, although the presence of either species—both exotic—was neither planned nor assisted. Common carp are an invasive species whose populations can reach problematic proportions. Their introduction is banned by state law. Yet these carp are found throughout New Jersey in every pond, lake and stream or river with slow, shallow water areas.

The grass carp, a prolific Asian vegetarian, was illegally introduced in the late 1970's as a form of aquatic vegetation control. They are currently allowed for this purpose only under special permit conditions, and must be certified triploid (sterile). Grass carp have a reputation as escape artists and can only be stocked in ponds less than ten acres, with no open inlet or outlet structures.

Nonetheless, there have been escapees, with descendents of long-ago illegal stockings growing to impressive sizes. Avid archer Mark Kronyak takes advantage of this. Previously holding the bowfishing state record for grass carp at 59 pounds, 12 ounces. (2006), Kronyak broke that record in 2008 with a 65-pounder, shot at 2:30 in the morning. Both fish were taken from the tidal freshwater Delaware River. Kronyak

“OK, after you shoot at the fish, how do you retrieve your arrow?” This is the most frequently asked question about bowfishing. Read these tips to learn how to hang on to your arrow and—more often than not—have a fish on the end of it, too.

—Mark Kronyak,
Current Bowfishing Record Holder for Carp

also holds the new record for common carp—43 pounds, 14 ounces (2008), also taken from the Delaware River. Few can argue with his success in targeting trophy carp. He offers tips for first time bowfishing anglers, or perhaps those just looking for a few pointers.

MARK KRONYAK'S BOWFISHING TIPS BOW

Bowfishing is a wet, messy endeavor. Get a cheap, used bow that you won't worry about getting muddy and slimy. Recurve bows are better-suited for bowfishing because the simple design allows for quick shots, but a compound bow will work well, also.

REEL

There are three types of bowfishing reels:

The hand-wind type is like a small tire rim. It attaches to the bow at the stabilizer mount or can screw to the bow where a sight would be mounted. It is the most time consuming to reel in, but also the least expensive.

The second type is a closed-face, push-button reel like what many used as a child, only larger to accommodate heavier braided line. Use caution when operating a closed-face reel. If you forget to push the button, you may either break the line and lose an arrow, or worse, have the arrow snap back at your face.

The last and most popular reels is the retriever reel. This reel looks like a plastic bottle

mounted where a sight is normally situated. When you shoot, the line exits the bottle drag-free. To reel in the line, pull the trigger while turning the handle and the line slips back into the bottle ready for the next shot.

LINE

A 200-pound-test braided nylon line is used to secure the arrow to the reel. To attach the line to the arrow, be sure to use a safety slide. Safety slides come with selected arrow sets, or they may be purchased separately.

WARNING: Do NOT attach the line directly to the back of the arrow. If the line gets caught after release this can cause the arrow to come right back at you.

ARROWS

Bowfishing arrows are usually solid fiberglass or carbon rods with a nock (a plastic end affixed to the back of an arrow so it can snap onto the bowstring) and a barbed point attached to the leading end. The arrows can weigh as much as 1,500 grams. Heavy indeed, but the weight is necessary to carry the bow's energy through the water. Big fish are notorious for pulling free from your arrow; therefore, stronger, larger barbs are preferred.

GLASSES

Polarized sunglasses are a must for daytime fishing. Glare on the water makes spotting fish difficult. Polarized glasses reduce glare and improve your view into the water.

WHEN AND WHERE

Common carp are such prolific fish that they are readily available a short drive from just about everyone's home. June is the best time to go because carp are late spring spawners and are found in shallow waters at that time. While common carp are the number one target for bowfishing, there's a good selection of other species to target

This was the year of the carp. Homer Tye caught the hook and line state record grass carp (54 lbs., 7 oz.) from Curlis Lake, Pennington.

such as catfish, suckers, bowfin, quillback carpsuckers, grass carp and pan fish.

Although bowfishing is possible from shoreline or wading into a river or lake, going by boat is the most productive method. A simple set up can be a 10-foot jon boat with a piece of ½-inch plywood lying across the front creating a platform. For night-time bowfishing, use a one million candle-power spotlight powered by a deep-cycle battery.

AIM AND RELEASE

Adjusting for light refraction is required when taking aim at fish under water. This refraction makes fish appear closer to the surface than they are, so aim lower when shooting. Create a practice target by filling a gallon milk jug with spray foam. Use rope to attach weight so the jug floats a few feet below the surface. Practice shooting at this target and you will quickly learn to account for light refraction when aiming. Be sure to follow through with your shot; keep your bow aimed precisely at the target until after the arrow reaches its destination. Remember, when you draw your bow, the safety slide and line stay in front of the bow and arrow rest.



Mark Kronyak hefts his record common carp, which weighed 43 pounds 14 ounces.


THE RULES



- A fishing license is required.
- The established size, season and creel limit regulations apply for specific species and waterbodies.
- A longbow, recurve bow or compound bow may be used, provided it is hand held and hand drawn and line is attached.
- Waterbodies such as the Delaware River and Greenwood Lake have shorelines in more than one state. Be sure to double check the rules of the state where you fish as they may differ between states.
- It is legal to take any species of fish with a bow EXCEPT brook trout, lake trout, brown trout, rainbow trout, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, striped bass, chain pickerel, northern pike, walleye, muskellunge or any hybrid thereof.

TARGETING TROPHIES

After dark is your best chance to find a trophy, but it is true that the two state record carp mentioned above were both shot during the day. As a general rule though, the bigger fish come out in the dark. The larger the waterbody, the greater the chance it may hold very large fish.

Deep pools in lakes and rivers where fish hold up in the winter are important habitat factors to consider when seeking trophy fish. Many of the state's reservoirs (Spruce Run is a good one), as well as lakes—such as Greenwood and Hopatcong—plus rivers like the Delaware, Raritan and Passaic, all have excellent habitat with fish of gigantic proportions.

Areas such as the mouth of feeder streams, lily pad beds or deep channels bordering shallow flats will attract and hold lots of fish. 

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

FWT109

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM

Connecting Kids with Their Watershed

By Jessica Griglak, Resource Interpretive Specialist

Those of us who grew up poking around streams looking for fish or crayfish and marveling at aquatic bugs know the impact it had on our lifetime attraction to thriving streams, rivers and ponds. Perhaps years later you've enjoyed sharing that same kind of experience with a curious youngster. But making the connection between the value of clean water and our streamside adventures isn't obvious to everyone. So how can we impress upon our children that without plentiful clean water, fish and wildlife cannot flourish?

Enter Trout in the Classroom (TIC), a science-based program teaching children the importance of coldwater conservation via hands-on learning. Through the process of raising brook trout from eggs to fingerlings, students focus on the importance of clean, cold water—not only for the brook trout they raise—but for other organisms as well, including people. TIC gets kids excited about the conservation of aquatic systems.

Prior to the formal creation of the TIC program, one school in New Jersey—Hopatcong Middle School—first raised brook trout from eggs in 1991. These students, known as the Brook Trout Bunch, later successfully lobbied to have the brook trout named as New Jersey's state fish. Unfortunately, raising trout in this Hopatcong classroom was discontinued with a shift in teaching staff.

But the tank from the Brook Trout Bunch program was relocated, first to Jefferson and then to Sparta, where it became the first official TIC classroom and the only TIC program in the state until 2006. The teacher who took over from the Brook Trout Bunch is now in her thirteenth year of raising trout in the classroom.

Trout Unlimited (TU) recognized the conservation education potential of TIC and in 2006 adopted the program, hoping to make it grow. Run on a volunteer basis, the program expanded from one classroom to 24 that same year, then increased by an additional 33 classrooms in 2007. In late winter of 2008, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife began coordinating TIC as it outgrew its volunteer base, a testament to TU's success.

Today there are 86 participating classrooms with schools from 16 of New Jersey's 21 counties, including some of the most urbanized locales in the state. More than 10,000 Garden State students annually learn about aquatic ecosystems and conservation through TIC.

Four additional TIC tanks at two soil conservation district offices—Audubon's Plainsboro Nature Preserve and the Manasquan Environmental Center—bring the message of aquatic conservation to another 11,000 students and adults each year.

Trout Unlimited continues to play a vital role in the program's success. In early October, volunteers from supporting TU chapters deliver brook trout eggs to participating schools statewide. Eggs are supplied free of charge from New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's Pequest Trout Hatchery. Students are involved in the care of their classroom trout from egg delivery until the fingerlings are released into pre-approved trout streams in May and June.

Throughout the year as students are raising their fish, teachers conduct trout-centered lessons from the TIC Activity Guide. Lessons meet several New Jersey State Science Standards for the middle school level, but activities can be adapted for any age range and ability – from kindergarten through high school. While guide materials are geared toward the sciences, the program is cross-curricular and can encompass math, English and literature, creative writing, reading, social science and the arts.

Trout in the Classroom students visit the Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center to learn the lifecycle and habitat needs of trout and the importance of aquatic conservation through a variety of interpretive programs.



NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife

Our Trout in the Classroom program reaches beyond the guide-book activities. In the spring, volunteers from Trout Unlimited once again visit the schools. This time they bring aquatic invertebrates collected from streams. These invertebrates are important indicators of stream health and are the primary food source for trout. Students learn to identify these stream inhabitants and how to apply information on the abundance and variety of species to determine the relative health of the stream from where they were collected. Some schools create advanced projects such as working with TU to help restore riparian areas by planting trees and shrubs or through in-stream projects to help restore and maintain trout waters.

The learning process continues through release day when students evaluate the habitat at the release site, looking for riffles and pools, good water flow, cold water and adequate food for the trout.

Young brook trout in a Trout in the Classroom tank provide students with a daily reminder of their responsibility as stewards of our aquatic resource.



Chuck Bobrowski, TIC teacher, Passaic High School

Releasing trout fingerings offers great learning opportunities. This year several central Jersey classrooms participated in a TIC Release Day at the Forest Resource Education Center in Jackson where many educators and conservation organizations come together to share their knowledge of water, watersheds and trout. Similar release day events are planned for north Jersey this spring.

Numerous TIC schools also visit the Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center, the original source of their trout eggs. More than 30 educational programs are offered at the hatchery; many are designed to extend one's knowledge of trout and their environment. Programs include macroinvertebrate sampling to determine the health of the river, trout life-cycle, touring the hatchery, an exploration of trout habitat, fishing education, web of life programs, plus many others.

In addition to new curriculum-based materials for elementary, middle and high school levels, an exciting new program called Fin-Pal is being developed. Fin-Pal will connect students in other states and different countries who also raise trout or salmon in the classroom, sharing their fish-rearing experience and knowledge.

Few environmental education programs really excite naturally inquisitive students as does Trout in the Classroom. By fostering a sound conservation ethic among our youth, TIC helps to create the next generation of good stewards of our waterways.

For more information on Trout in the Classroom or how to bring it to your classroom call Jessica Griglak, the TIC Coordinator for the DEP's Division of Fish and Wildlife at 908-637-4125 or contact Jessica via email at Jessica.Griglak@dep.state.nj.us. You can also visit the TIC Web site at www.NJTroutintheClassroom.org.



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

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2009 New Jersey Musky School

**May 17
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Fee: \$300

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

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**For more information, visit our Web sites
www.mi22.com and www.MuskiesInc.org**

Muskies Inc. is a non-profit organization.

This is a fundraising event.

All proceeds benefit the New Jersey musky fishery.

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. Well-composed, high resolution photos may be selected for print in this *Digest*.

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:

Species	Adult Weight (lbs., oz.)	Junior Weight (lbs., oz.)	Catch & 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

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).

I have enclosed a clear, side-view photo.

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 New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's Record Fish Program honors anglers who catch the largest of select species of freshwater and saltwater fish. Record size is based on weight alone; there are no line classes. Currently there are 31 freshwater species eligible for entry into the program.

Anglers are reminded that the objective of the Record Fish Program is to increase the awareness of fishing opportunities for species that are regularly sought and routinely found in the freshwaters or off the coast of New Jersey.

Anglers should also be aware that several procedural changes are now in effect for the Record Fish Program. First, there are different applications for freshwater and saltwater species. Second, for freshwater species, it is now mandatory that a freshwater biologist confirm the identification and weight of any potential record fish within three days of it being caught. Anglers must call Fish and Wildlife's Lebanon Fisheries Office at (908)236-2118 (Hunterdon County), the Hackettstown Hatchery at

(908)852-4950 (Warren County), or the Southern Region Office at (856)629-4950 (Camden County) to make arrangements. Hours are Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. These offices have a certified scale on site, so an entry can be weighed and identified. Depending on the time and location of your catch, you may elect to have the fish weighed on a local certified scale, but you must still have a freshwater biologist personally confirm the identification and weight at one of the above offices. Please note that all scale certification requirements still apply, including a valid Certificate of Inspection/Test Report and current Registration Certificate issued by the County Office of Weights and Measures. Lastly, there is a new entry deadline. Applications must now be submitted no later than one month after the date of catch. All other program rules still apply.

For a complete list of state record fish or to print an application with complete program rules, visit the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Web site at www.NJfishandWildlife.com/recfish.htm.

New Jersey State Freshwater Records

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)	43	14	2008	Mark Kronyak	Delaware River
Carp, Grass	54	7	2008	Homer Tye	Curtis Lake
Carp, Grass (Archery)	65	0	2008	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	Prompton 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

Species	lbs.	oz.	Year	Angler	Where Caught
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

Fish Smart, Eat Smart

Eating Fish And Crabs Caught In New Jersey Waters

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. Fish consumption advisories have been adopted to guide citizens on safe consumption practices.

The current list of fish consumption advisories consists of state-wide, 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.

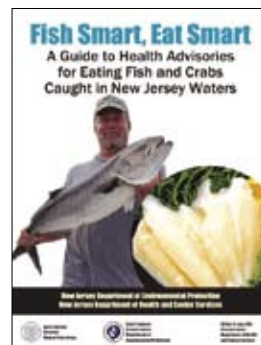
**Check online for fish consumption advisories on the local water body in which you fish!
Go to FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org**

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 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:

**New Jersey Department of
Environmental Protection**

Public Access Center
(609) 777-DEP4
www.state.nj.us/dep

Division of Fish and Wildlife

(609) 748-2020
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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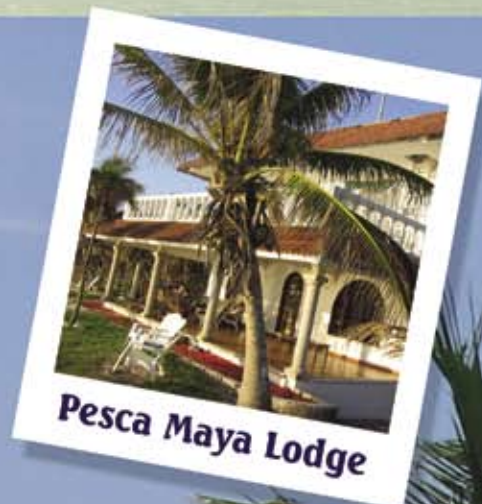
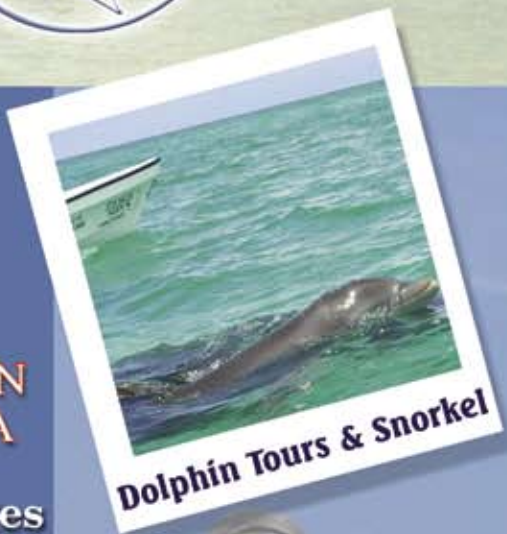
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DEP PUBLICATIONS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO ANGLERS

www.NJFishandWildlife.com

Item	Cost	Website	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
Lake Survey Maps (specify waterbody)	Free	Yes	1
List of Fishing Guides	Free	Yes	1
Manasquan River Fishing Access Areas	Free	Yes	1
Places to Fish (ponds, lakes, reservoirs, rivers and streams)	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
Visually Impaired—Large Format Freshwater Fishing <i>Digest</i> (Photocopy of this <i>Digest</i> .)	Free	No	1
Wildlife Management Area Maps (specify name of WMA)	Free	Yes	1

Sources:

1. NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife, P.O. Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400, (609) 292-2965
2. NJ Geological Survey, Maps & Publications, Sales Office, P.O. Box 438, Trenton, NJ 08625-0438, (609) 777-1038
3. DEP, Div. Parks & Forestry, P.O. Box 404, Trenton, NJ 08625-0404, (800) 843-6420 (Specify name of park.)
4. NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife, P.O. Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400
Make check payable to Conserve Wildlife Foundation.

Please write item requested on the outside of envelope.

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State Police Marine Law Enforcement Stations

Bivalve.....	(856) 785-1330
North Wildwood.....	(609) 522-0393
Atlantic City.....	(609) 441-3586
Burlington.....	(609) 387-1221
Ocean.....	(609) 296-5807
Point Pleasant.....	(732) 899-5050
Monmouth Station.....	(732) 842-5171
Lake Hopatcong.....	(973) 663-3400
Newark Bay.....	(973) 578-8173

EMAIL LISTS ■

Get On The Lists!

The Freshwater Fisheries e-mail lists, 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.

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▶▶ WARNING: WILDLIFE HAZARD

Please properly dispose of all fishing line. Plastic debris can endanger aquatic life and snare propellers.



Could this be *your* line?

Shyam Menon

▶▶ NJ FISH ART & WRITING CONTEST: KIDS CAN LET THEIR CREATIVITY GO WILD!



First Place, Grade 6: **Lucy Wang of Holmdel**

New Jersey students in grades four through eight are invited to enter New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's 2009 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 6, 2009**. All entries become the property of Fish and Wildlife and cannot be returned.



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