

New Jersey Freshwater Fishing Digest

January 2012

**Fishing
License**

INFORMATION
page 16

Join New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife in Celebrating

100 Years of the
HACKETTSTOWN STATE FISH HATCHERY

June 2 & 3, 2012

—See page 12—



A Summary of Regulations and
Freshwater Fisheries Management Information
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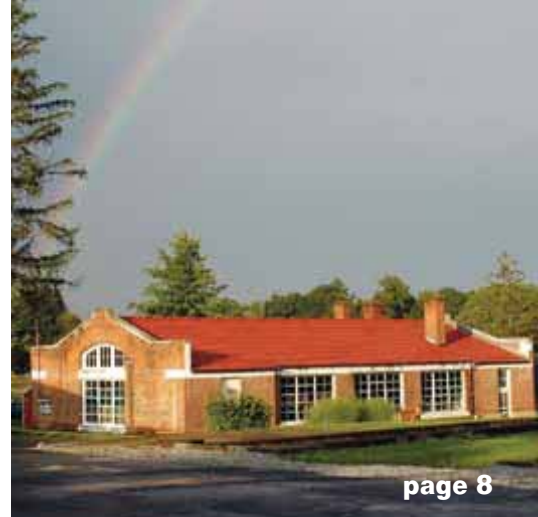
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page 8



page 34



page 36

contents

- 6 Highlights of Regulation Changes
- 16 License Information
- 17 Summary of General Fishing Regulations
- 18 General Trout Information
- 20 Trout Fishing Regulation Tables
- 24 New Jersey Freshwater Fish Identification
- 26 Fishing Regulations: Size, Season and Creel Limits
 - 28 Delaware River
 - 29 Greenwood Lake
 - 30 Baitfish, Turtles and Frogs
- 30 Motorboat Registration, Title and Operators' Requirements
- 31 Annual Open House at Pequest
- 31 FREE Fishing Days: June 16 and 17, 2012
- 32 Fishing License Lines
- 33 Wildlife Management Area Regulations
- 38 New Jersey's Stocking Programs: Warmwater and Trout
- 40 Protect New Jersey's Waters
- 41 Health Advisories: Fish Smart – Eat Smart
- 42 New Jersey State Record Sport Fish
- 43 Skillful Angler Awards Program
- 44 Fish Art and Writing Contest

features

- 8 Celebrating 100 Years of the Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery
- 14 Superintendents of the Hackettstown Fish Hatchery
- 23 Hatchery is a Haven for Wildlife
- 34 Life Cycle of a Fish Hatchery
- 36 Meet the Mosquito-eaters

For 2012 License Fees and Information, see page 16.

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Write to:
New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife
Large Format Freshwater Fishing Digest
MC501-03, P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

hotlines

Trout Stocking
Spring / Fall / Winter
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The computerized message is available 24 hours per day, seven days a week seasonally, or visit our Web site: NJFishandWildlife.com.

Shad Run
(610) 954-0577 or (610) 954-0578

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.

Environmental Alert
(877) WARNDP

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.

ATTENTION NEW JERSEY SALTWATER ANGLERS

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) established the New Jersey Saltwater Recreational Registry Program, effective May 4, 2011, to exempt saltwater recreational anglers fishing in New Jersey's marine and tidal waters from the federal registry and the \$15 federal registration fee imposed in 2011.

The goal of the registry is to provide the most accurate information possible that can be used to determine the health of fish stocks and report to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Reliable, universally trusted data will aid anglers, fisheries managers and other stakeholders in their combined efforts so that rules are set to effectively and fairly ensure the long-term sustainability of recreational fishing.

WHO NEEDS TO REGISTER?

NOTE: Anglers with either a valid registration from the National Saltwater Angler Registry, a valid license from another exempted state or a New Jersey freshwater fishing license are required to register (for free) with the New Jersey Saltwater Recreational Registry Program. *Registration with New Jersey will exempt you from having to register with the National Saltwater Angler Registry. Registered anglers must still comply with saltwater license requirements in other states.*

Individual saltwater anglers ages 16 and older MUST register if ANY of the following criteria are met:

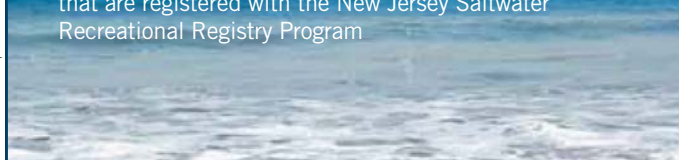
- Recreationally fish with a hand line or rod and line, spearfish or fish by hand
- Recreationally fish in the marine and fresh tidal waters of the State of New Jersey
- Recreationally fish in marine waters outside the State of New Jersey but land the catch in New Jersey

The *only* means to register is online at saltwaterregistry.nj.gov

Individual saltwater anglers are EXEMPT from registering if either of the following apply:

- Under the age of 16
- Solely fish on for-hire (party and charter) vessels that are registered with the New Jersey Saltwater Recreational Registry Program

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New Jersey Freshwater Fishing Digest

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New Jersey 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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Cover photo: Rainbow trout (Eric Engbretson; www.underwaterfishphotos.com); Inset: Trout stocking truck from 1965.

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New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife

Our Mission

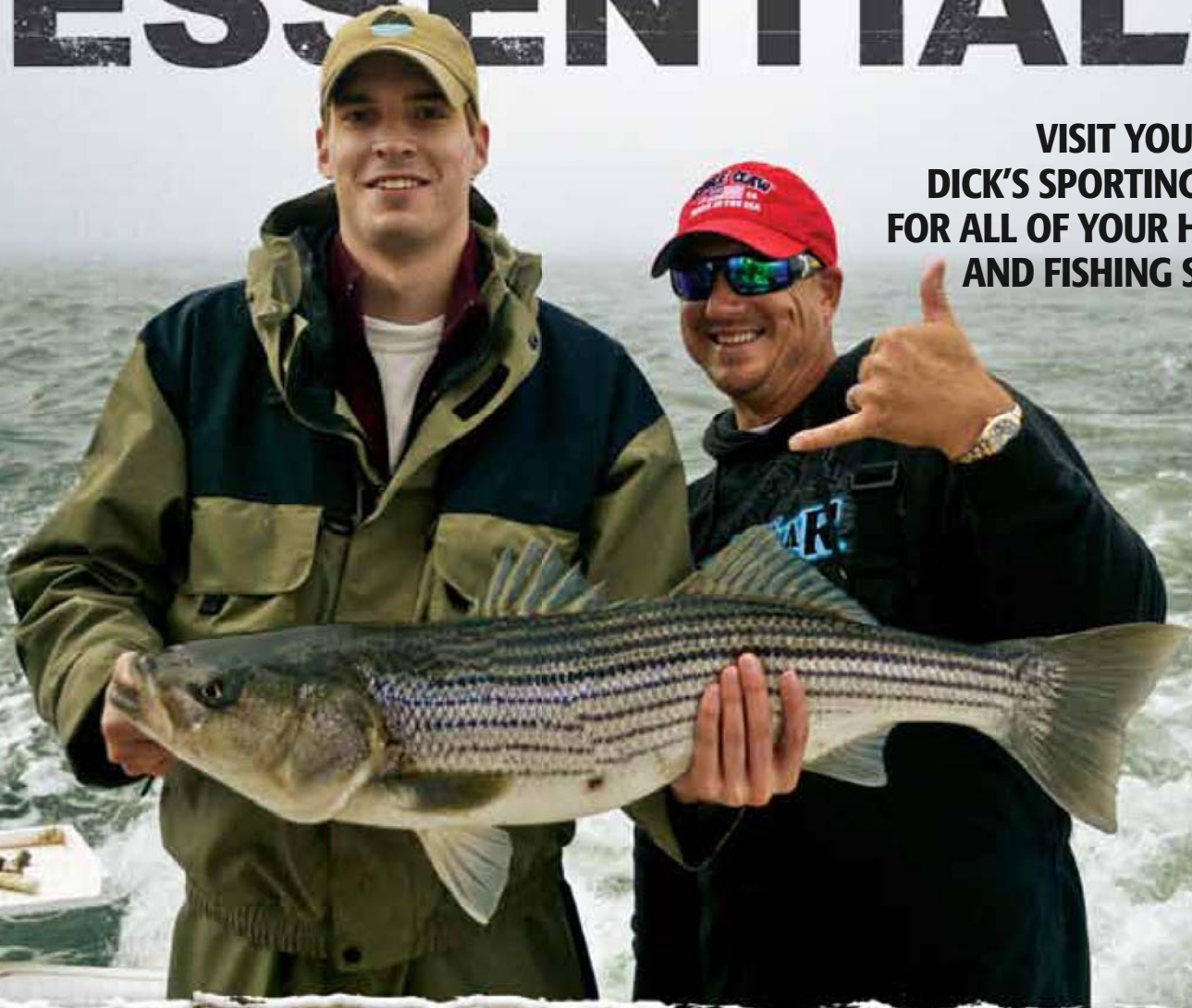
To protect and manage the state's fish and wildlife to maximize their long-term biological, recreational and economic value for all New Jerseyans.

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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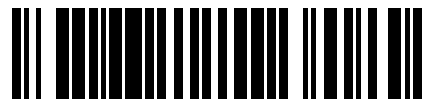


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Director's Message



BY DAVE CHANDA

This year we observe two very important anniversaries both in state and nationally. Here in New Jersey, 2012 marks the 100th year of fish rearing at our Charles O. Hayford Hatchery in Hackettstown, Warren County. Nationally, 2012 is the 75th anniversary of the federal Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program.

These anniversaries have several things in common. First, they both celebrate programs that have touched the lives of millions of anglers and hunters and have vastly improved the diversity and abundance of fish and wildlife resources in our state and across the nation. Second, both programs owe their

existence and success to the hunter and angler conservation ethic that created them, along with the billions of dollars sportsmen and sportswomen have paid in license fees plus excise taxes to keep those programs thriving to this very day.

The 'formal' conservation of fish and wildlife in New Jersey dates back 142 years to 1870 when the Board of Fish Commissioners was appointed at the request of anglers to address the worsening condition of the state's waterways and the depletion of our fish stocks. The following year, fish and wildlife management in New Jersey had its humble beginning when nine county fish wardens were appointed. Those humble beginnings grew to a Board of Fish and Game Commissioners in 1892 and just 20 years later, the Charles O. Hayford Hatchery began rearing brook trout to stock in New Jersey waterways.

Since New Jersey's first fishing license was required in 1915, New Jersey anglers have funded the Hayford Hatchery's rearing and stocking of about 40 million trout from 1913 to 1983 and more than 40 million warm and cool water fish from 1984 to the present. The more than 100-year legacy of New Jersey angler concern for the well-being of our waterways and fish stocks plus their financial support of our hatcheries has led to the greatest diversity and abundance of game fish that has ever existed in the Garden State.

On the national level, that same hunter and angler concern spawned the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR) Program 75 years ago when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (now the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act). In 1950, the companion Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act passed (now the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act). These acts fostered partnerships between federal and state fish and wildlife agencies, industries, conservation groups and sportsmen to benefit wildlife through a self-imposed excise tax paid by manufacturers and users on gear bought for fishing, hunting, shooting and boating.

Together, the WSFR's dedicated excise tax has contributed more than \$12 billion to fish and wildlife conservation in the U.S. — *more than any other single conservation effort.*

Angler and hunter license fees and WSFR funds have restored our fish and wildlife populations and provided us the opportunity to enjoy fish, wildlife and the outdoors for more than 100 years in New Jersey.

Not only are these great reasons for us *all* to celebrate these anniversaries in 2012, it's also an ideal time to renew our commitment to continue our proud tradition of fish and wildlife conservation for the next 100 years.

Be sure to join us June 2 and 3, 2012 in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Charles O. Hayford Fish Hatchery in Hackettstown. See our invitation on page 12. 

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



Your purchase of hunting equipment supports Wildlife Restoration



About this Guide

This high-quality regulation guide is offered to you by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

J.F. Griffin is an award winning publishing house that specializes in producing state fish & wildlife regulation books. J.F. Griffin supports the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's staff in the design, layout and editing of the guides. They also manage the marketing and sales of advertising to appropriate businesses within the book.

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**SPORTS
AUTHORITY**

General Regulation Changes

Fish Species Clarified for Bowfishing

Carp, including bighead, common, grass and silver, as well as eels, flathead catfish, shad (both American and gizzard), snakeheads and suckers are the **only** species which may be taken while bowfishing. See *Boundary Water Regulation Changes*, page 7, for additional changes affecting bow anglers on the Delaware River.

Limit of 25 Fish per Day Established for Fish Species with No Specified Creel Limits

A limit of 25 fish per day has been established for all species of freshwater fish that do not have a specified creel limit. This change establishes a limit on species such as quillback or gizzard shad which are not typically targeted by anglers but may be caught while fishing for other game species.

Trout Regulation Changes

New Waterbodies Added to Trout Stocking Program

South Vineland Park Pond (Cumberland) and Brookaloo Swamp (Warren) have been added to Fish and Wildlife's trout stocking program. South Vineland Park Pond is a surprisingly deep, 20-acre sand pond with a maximum depth of 35 feet. The lake offers good shoreline access, a boat ramp, ample parking and a handicapped fishing pier. The lake also has a narrow band of trout supporting water, a rarity in our southern waters.

Due to the addition of South Vineland Park Pond, Giampetro Park Pond—also located in Vineland—will only be stocked pre-season. Two popular trout stocking points historically stocked as part of Honey Run (Warren County) were recently identified as being located on Brookaloo Swamp which is now formally added to the list of trout stocked waters so that proper pre-season closures apply.

Trout Stocking Discontinued at Four Waterbodies

Clarks Pond (Essex), Mullica Hill Pond (Gloucester), Riverview Beach Pond (Salem), and Trout Brook - Hope (Warren) will no longer be stocked with trout. Clarks Pond was dredged in 2007. Unfortunately, the lake's on-stream location resulted in sediment quickly refilling the lake soon after dredging was completed. In its current state the lake provides little habitat for trout. Trout stocking was discontinued at Mullica Hill Pond due to safety concerns with the lake's only stocking location. Increased roadway traffic on Rt. 322 proves a significant risk to Fish and Wildlife employees and volunteers during trout stocking and also to anglers traversing the road.

Stocking at both Riverview Beach Pond and Trout Brook-Hope were discontinued due to low angler interest. An abundance of waterfowl at Riverview Beach Pond results in frequent algal blooms affecting the lake's appearance. Due to the poor aesthetics, angler utilization has dramatically declined. Trout Brook-Hope was stocked in only two locations and angler interest has been minimal in recent years.

Trout Stocking Boundaries Extended on Two Waterbodies

Trout stocking boundaries on the Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal (Mercer) and Honey Run (Warren) have been expanded. The current limits for Honey Run, Swayze's Mill Road to Rt. 519, Hope Township, do not encompass the entire trout stocked section of Honey Run. The boundaries have been expanded to start at the Knowlton-Hope Township Line down to the confluence of Beaver Brook encompassing an additional three miles of stream. The downstream limit of the trout-stocked section of the Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal has been

extended from Upper Ferry Road to Wilburtha Road. Currently trout are stocked at various locations in the Delaware-Raritan feeder canal (Mercer), beginning near the Hunterdon-Mercer County line and extending down to, and including, the Upper Ferry Road bridge. Due to the current delineation, fishing is prohibited during the pre-season period upstream of the bridge, but not prohibited on the immediate downstream side of the bridge. This change will properly extend the pre-season fishing closure an additional ½ mile to the next bridge downstream at Wilburtha Road.

Lake Trout Creel Limit increased at Round Valley

The creel limit for lake trout in Round Valley Reservoir is increased (from the former three fish at 15 inches to less than or equal to 20 inches plus one additional fish of 24 inches or greater—for a total of four lake trout) now to a six fish limit—which may range from 15 inches to less than 24 inches, plus one additional fish of 24 inches or greater—for a daily creel total of seven lake trout. The results of both our Bureau

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of Freshwater Fisheries annual gill netting data and recent Round Valley Trout Association's tournament data confirm an abundance of medium-sized lake trout (15 to 24 inches) and relatively few lake trout of trophy proportions. Increased competition for food among lake trout at this size has resulted in diminished condition, slowed growth and fewer large fish. Since lake trout reproduce within the reservoir and are not stocked, their numbers are not as easily controlled. Data indicate the former harvest restrictions on lake trout, in effect since 2008, successfully allowed lake trout to grow beyond the 15 to 20 inch range. However, there still appears to be a stockpile of fish less than 24 inches that can be utilized by anglers. Further liberalizing the limits on these fish will encourage anglers to harvest more lake trout in order to address the current stockpiling issue.

Bass Regulation Changes


Alloway Lake Now Regulated as a Lunker Bass Lake
A 15-inch size limit and three fish per day is now established for largemouth bass in Alloway

Lake (Salem County). As a result of a dam failure in 2000, the 120 acre impoundment remained lowered for nearly a decade before repairs were made to the spillway in 2008. Since the dam failure, Alloway Township purchased a portion of the shoreline to allow public access to anglers. To protect the developing fishery the township instituted a catch and release only fishing ordinance. Fish and Wildlife has been working closely with the township since the lake reopened to ensure that the fishery is managed correctly. Electrofishing surveys completed in 2009 and 2010 documented an abundant largemouth bass population in excellent condition.

Boundary Water Regulation Changes

Rod Limit on Delaware River Increases to Three
To be consistent with newly adopted regulations for Pennsylvania, the rod limit for the Delaware River has been increased from two to three for both shoreline and boat anglers. The three-rod limit is consistent with the rod limit established for New Jersey shoreline anglers in 2008.

Fish Species for Bow Fishing Restricted

The taking of eels, herring, and bullheads is prohibited for Delaware River bow anglers while the taking of catfish is now allowed. The regulation change improves the consistency of New Jersey bow fishing regulations compared with Pennsylvania for the Delaware. Channel, white and the invasive flathead catfish are present in the Delaware River. Contrary to New Jersey's inland waters, channel catfish reproduce in the Delaware River. By allowing the taking of catfish—the highly invasive flathead catfish, a fish species present in the Delaware River—is also allowed as it is difficult to distinguish between the two species through the water column. Contrary to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations, American and gizzard shad are still permitted to be taken with bow and arrow by New Jersey anglers. 

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Celebrating
100 Years of the
HACKETTSTOWN STATE FISH HATCHERY

By Craig Lemon, Superintendent





Circa 1920s opening day of trout season festivities.

Rows of McDonald hatching jars in the original intensive fish culture building.



Early fish stocking truck. Trout were transported in milk cans and drums kept cool with ice.



HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

While vacationing in Maine during the spring of 1911, Ernest Napier, president of the New Jersey Fish and Game Commission, observed 22-year old Charlie Hayford working at the Rangeley Lake Hatchery. Napier saw potential in Hayford, the newly appointed Superintendent who had *doubled* fish production while *cutting* costs at the New England fish hatchery. That same spring, while Hayford was still employed by the State of Maine, Napier and his colleague, Faunce, requested for Hayford to be on-loan to New Jersey to assist in the site selection for our new hatchery.

The Roberts Farm in Hackettstown was secured for the hatchery location along with several adjoining properties totaling 100 acres. This farm was chosen for its ample supply of pure, cool spring water, a running brook (Trout Brook) and convenient, nearby shipping capabilities. Several weeks later, the Commission appointed Hayford as the Hackettstown hatchery superintendent—at an annual salary of \$900. The Charles Hayford reign would continue for forty five years.

Funded by a special appropriation of \$30,000, workers using horses and shovels (none of today's heavy equipment) began construction in May of 1912. Initial work progressed slowly—hampered by red tape, required appropriation approvals and difficulty with obtaining the necessary bids from vendors. By July, the Commission drafted letters to *Governor Woodrow Wilson*, Treasurer Daniel Voorhees and State Comptroller Edward Edwards citing reasons for delays and requesting permission to construct the nursery buildings without first securing bids. The letter explained the critical need for the nursery building's timely completion as eggs ordered for a September delivery will take a prescribed time to incubate

and hatch in order to meet the 1.5 million young trout needed for the following year. On July 26, just four months prior to being elected president, Governor Wilson approved the request.

The Commission awarded the contract to I.N. Hoffman of High Bridge in the amount of \$6,700 to construct the hatchery buildings. By December, the two main hatchery buildings, main culture building and hatch house were completed—just in time for the arrival of the first 100,000 eyed brook trout eggs from a Weissport, Pennsylvania Hatchery—for fifty cents per thousand. Less than a year later, 86,700 brook trout fingerlings were planted in New Jersey streams. These first fish from the new hatchery were driven by Hayford himself in a newly purchased chain-driven REO truck. The fish were transported in milk cans packed in ice to keep down water temperatures. The original main hatchery building still stands today and was used for the rearing of fish up until 1999.

Hatchery construction continued over several years with these additions: houses for the superintendent and assistant superintendent, a gate house, new spring houses, grinding house, ice house, carpenter shop, second nursery building, raceways and ponds. Hundreds of feet of iron pipe were laid to carry water from the springs and brook to the hatchery nursery buildings, raceways and ponds. Word spread of the hatchery's progress, drawing commissioners from numerous states to view the developing facilities. Vermont Fish and Game's Commissioner John Titcomb said after his visit, "You certainly have the largest trout hatchery I have ever seen. With the trout produced there and the bass which you will be able to produce when the ponds are completed, you will have, I believe, the largest fish cultural station in the country."

TRANSPORTATION

In April of 1914, the first attempt was made at shipping trout on railroad cars to south Jersey. New Jersey's first stocking of rainbow trout, weighing 1 to 2 pounds, were destined for Hammonton and Batsto lakes. The trout, contained within 75 milk cans that filled an entire baggage car along with an ample supply of ice, were loaded at midnight on the Delaware and Lackawanna R.R. Company's tracks in Hackettstown. By special arrangement, the railroad company picked up the car at 5 a.m. The fish car travelled to Phillipsburg, at 6:55 a.m. then to Jersey City at 9:14 a.m. for the final transfer onto the Atlantic City Express. Eight hours later, the rainbows—and accompanying wardens Park, Cudney and Young, who were kept busy aerating and icing the cans—arrived safely in south Jersey about 1 p.m. Only three fish perished during the trip. This early transportation success established this south Jersey rail run as part of the hatchery's annual stocking program.

By 1925, fish distribution methods improved exponentially after the purchase of four pneumatic tired trucks with enclosed cabs and special beds designed to hold two, 200-gallon galvanized iron tanks, each capable of carrying 650 catchable-sized trout. Ten years earlier, such a trip across the state to Bergen, Essex and Middlesex counties took two full days. With the new trucks and better roads, staff made the same trip twice in one day! These increased trucking capabilities marked the end of transporting fish by train in the Garden State. During the spring of 1926, staff distributed 600 truckloads of trout travelling 27,000 miles, completing the task by July. Today's stocking fleet makes 300 runs travelling 34,000 miles; spring stocking is now finished by the end of May.



Aerial view of the main Hackettstown Hatchery.



Hackettstown Hatchery's state-of-the-art intensive fish culture building constructed in the late 1990s.



Eggs are measured prior to placement into hatching jars.

ONLY THE BEST

Superintendent Hayford was the first in the United States to practice selective breeding on trout. From 1921 to 1932, hatchery workers chose for spawning only the best fish in size, shape and color. Selective breeding at Hackettstown resulted in our 16-month-old trout growing in length to 11 inches (compared with the usual 9 inches) and a doubling in weight! The first stocking of these selectively bred trout, reared from egg to adult, were stocked in 1917. In 1922, Ken Lockwood, sports editor for the *Newark Evening News*, questioned, "Is the state's scheme of stocking with fry and small fingerlings worth while?" His plea was for the "sane stocking of larger fish, not quantity but quality...." Around this time discussions surfaced about stocking catchable-sized fish during the open season, a consideration not met without criticism. The Commission was concerned that opening day stocks would be low or gone by the mid or later part of the season.

THE ROARING 20s

In 1918, a lower dam and spillway were constructed at the hatchery to allow the flooding of 20 acres of meadows, creating 5- to 8-foot deep ponds for raising smallmouth bass. Over 12 additional acres were purchased (the Thomas property) including a 4-acre lake and five large springs capable of filling a 12-inch pipe with 52 degree spring water. This additional lake and spring water supply allowed trout and bass production to increase. The hatchery now had seventeen independent chains of trout raceways, 156 pools in total. If placed one after another the raceways would reach 1.5 miles. These raceways required 2.25 million gallons of water to fill them all to a working level. The nursery building contained 100 hatching

troughs and four egg batteries consisting of 600 jars.

Throughout the '20s, the Hackettstown hatchery annually stocked about 60 million fish. This huge number was inflated by the millions of yellow perch fry hatched and stocked each year. Hayford stated in 1923, "Every stream which possessed conditions capable of sustaining trout life has been stocked. During recent years the fame of our streams has spread to adjoining states and nonresidents join the tens of thousands of New Jersey sportsmen in trying their luck with rod and reel."

To meet the hatchery's growing needs, game wardens and hatchery personnel collected fish from state reservoirs, working from temporary, overnight summer camps. Using a boat, seine nets and a tank truck, 26 small truckloads of largemouth bass fry were netted and brought to the hatchery for propagation. A second warm-water species, the bluegill, was first propagated at the facility in 1924.

AN ADDITION TO THE EAST

In 1926 the Board of Commissioners approved additional land purchases on the eastern side of Hackettstown. Construction of the "East Hatchery" or "Rearing Pond Station" began in 1927 and by spring of the following year, five ponds were ready for fish. The ultimate goal was to build 28 ponds capable of producing two to three hundred thousand 8- to 10-inch trout annually, doubling current hatchery production. Ponds at the east hatchery, located near the town's Alumni Field, are still in production today.

THE HATCHERY GETS A "NEW DEAL"

Oddly, the Great Depression brought a new wave of improvements at Hackettstown. President

Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal created the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC), a public work-relief program related to the conservation and development of natural resources on lands owned by federal, state and local governments. In October of 1933, CCC Camp #62 was established in Hackettstown. The camps were comprised of young men between the ages of 18 and 25 who enrolled for six-month time segments for a maximum of two years. The men were paid \$30 a month and provided room, board and medical care. Over its seven year existence, CCC Camp # 62 built 76 trout and bass ponds, 15 concrete dams and over 50 concrete water control structures (flumes). They also constructed over 7 miles of dirt and gravel road, laid 3 miles of iron pipe and dug more than 3 miles of drainage ditches. This was in addition to clearing 40 acres of brush, laying 2,000 square yards of rip rap wall, seeding 2 miles of pond banks plus cleaning and re-grading 50 existing ponds.

THE END OF AN ERA

On March 31, 1956, after 45 years of serving the needs of New Jersey anglers, Hayford retired. Just three years prior on July 11, 1953, Governor Robert B. Meyner, officially dedicated the hatchery to Charles O. Hayford for his long-standing contributions to fish culture for the State of New Jersey. It must have been bittersweet for Hayford in that it was his son, Robert who replaced him as the hatchery's superintendent a month after the elder Hayford's retirement. Almost sixty years later, the hatchery's front gate still proudly carries his name.

FEEDING

Designing a feed program is an integral part of any fish culture operation and is a science unto

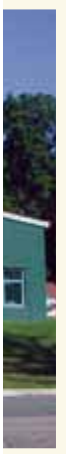
EARLY DEDICATED FUNDS

On April 9, 1914, two years after the Hackettstown hatchery was constructed, one of the most important laws ever passed on behalf of fish and game species in New Jersey was enacted. **The Hunting and Fishing License Law** required the issuance of a \$1.15 license to hunt with firearms and to angle for fish in the fresh waters of the state. All resident females—regardless of age—and resident males under the age of 14, were exempt from purchasing this sporting license which provided a revenue source to manage fish and game resources in New Jersey. At the time, it was the Fish and Game Commission's goal to utilize license revenue for hatchery and game farm maintenance so that not a penny of expense—once the facilities were fully established—would be borne by any other except the anglers and hunters of the state. This still holds true today.

Hopatcong were performed by the Knee Deep Club. Fish and Wildlife continued this stocking in later years.

New Jersey's muskellunge program was launched with the initial stocking of 3,900 5- to six-inch fingerlings procured in 1993 from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. Brood stock collection from New Jersey waters for these large, toothy predators began in 1996 with the spawning of adult muskies captured in trap nets set in Monksville Reservoir and Greenwood Lake. Today, muskellunge over 50 inches are caught with increasing frequency by devoted muskie anglers.

At the same time great strides were being made in coolwater production, regional biologists also looked to fill a niche in warmwater fish production. Fry and fingerlings from Delaware, Virginia, South Carolina and Arkansas formed the basis of New Jersey's striped bass and hybrid striped bass programs. These fish were grown using three methods—intensively in fiberglass rearing tanks, extensively in earthen ponds and a combination of the two—until they reached a target stocking size of 4 inches. These bass species were brought to New Jersey's waters to target growing alewife populations in our largest, warmest (80+ degrees in the summer) waters. Today, Lake Hopatcong—along with Manasquan



itself. During the hatchery's early years, staff conducted numerous feeding experiments to identify ways to reduce feed costs while still yielding healthy, good-sized trout. Back then, approximately four pounds of feed translated into a pound of trout. Young fry were strictly fed ground beef livers and calf hearts which provided high levels of protein, vitamins and minerals needed to spur growth. Once reaching fingerling size, the trout were switched to a diet of cow "plucks" (soft organs), pork welts (spleen), frozen herring, canned horsemeat and dry fish meal.

These food items were ground on site creating a soupy concoction, loaded each day into numerous five gallon pails and dispersed through the hatchery by staff designated as "feeders." Working the grinding room was not considered the highlight of one's career. Dry feeds comprised more and more of the trout's diet as advances were made in their formulation. By the mid-1970s dry feeds were used exclusively.

Although the dry feeds were easier to prepare and disperse they were not without drawbacks. Ed Washuta, Fish and Wildlife's retired fish pathologist, remembers the feeders "...slinging dry feed for eight hours a day, every day. It was a dirtier job than pond washing. The feed dust got everywhere—on clothing, skin and in every little crevice on the truck. At least once a week, usually more, Harold Gruver, West Hatchery feeder, would hose down his truck to flush out maggots from wherever they were hiding. When things got really bad, Gruver would joke that he had an easy day because the maggots would carry the bucket of feed to the pond for him."

TIME FOR A CHANGE

The late 60s and early 70s were troubling times for trout production at Hackettstown. Diseases such as whirling disease, infectious pancreatic necrosis (IPN) and bacterial gill disease (BGD) caused high trout mortalities. Despite these problems, 1973 saw a record number of trout raise at the hatchery: 660,247 fish. This record production was attributed to consistently high water flows, a mild winter and a strong feeding effort by hatchery personnel.

In 1972, test wells dug at the Pequest Rearing Station created optimism that water sources there would be sufficient to supply a future hatchery. Construction of the new Pequest Trout Hatchery began in 1978. In October of 1983, the *Sunday Register* headlines read "Hackettstown Trucks Make Final Trout Run." Beginning with the spring stocking in 1984, all brown, brook and rainbow trout were reared at the new Pequest Trout Hatchery located just nine miles from

Hackettstown. Not only had trout production been discontinued at the older facility, but the Hackettstown hatchery—once a premiere tourist attraction with over 100,000 visitors annually—was officially closed to the public. Today, local residents of various ages fondly recall walking through the extensive grounds, viewing hatchery operations first hand.

The focus of energy at Hackettstown now shifted to rearing coolwater and warmwater species. Advances in culturing large trophy fish such as tiger muskies and northern pike, plus successful crosses that gave rise to hybrid striped bass, provided new fish culture processes to be explored. Newly created reservoirs such as Round Valley (1960), Spruce Run (1963), Monksville (1987), Merrill Creek (1988) and Manasquan (1990) built to meet New Jersey's growing drinking water demands but also provided fisheries biologists with just under 9,000 acres of potential fishing opportunity. To meet the stocking needs of all these new waterbodies, freshwater fisheries biologists Robert Papson, Robert Stewart and Art Lupine presented proposals for new species to be cultured. They knew that the deep waters of Round Valley and Merrill Creek reservoirs would provide excellent opportunities for establishing a lake trout population.

This was another exciting time in New Jersey's fish culture legacy. Our biologists learned new fish-rearing techniques that greatly diverged from those used in the first 65 years of coldwater production. The original shipment of tiger muskellunge eggs arrived from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission with plans to learn from this early coolwater fish-rearing experience. The goal: to develop suitable coolwater rearing techniques and facilities for future culturing of northern pike and purebred muskellunge. Methods were developed for brood stock collection using trap nets, spawning techniques, egg incubation and hatching procedures, dietary requirements for each species and tank densities to optimize fish growth. Those first few years of coolwater production were the foundation of today's successful northern pike, walleye and muskellunge programs.

The walleye program kicked off in 1989 with eggs received from Canada, Pennsylvania and New York. In all, 3.4 million eggs were incubated and hatched the first year. Over one million fry and fingerlings were stocked in Monksville Reservoir alone. As walleye production improved, additional waters such as Lake Hopatcong, Greenwood Lake and Swartswood Lake were added to the stocking requests. The early successful stockings of walleye in Lake

Rows of fish-rearing tanks line the intensive building, capable of raising fish under three different water temperatures.



and Spruce Run reservoirs—support exceptional hybrid striped bass fisheries with specimens nearing ten pounds.

1990s BRING NEW IDEAS

In 1999, the aging Hackettstown facility underwent a major facelift. Actually, the upgrades were more akin to the surgical implantation of new, bionic parts. Following years of demolition and site cleanup, a new 12,500 square foot pre-engineered intensive fish culture building was constructed for the purpose of raising more and larger coolwater and warmwater fish. The \$3.2 million building contains a state-of-the-art recirculation system, one of the first of its kind in the country. The system was designed to raise multiple species of fish using three different water temperatures under one roof.

- 52 degrees – lake trout
- 68 degrees – northern pike, muskellunge and walleyes
- 80 degrees – channel catfish, hybrid striped bass

With a recirculation system, heated water can be reused at levels as high as 80-90% efficiency, thereby reducing the number-one expense: *heating cold spring water*. The new system at Hackettstown is made up of 28 fish tanks made from a combination of fiberglass and plastic with a capacity of 30,000 gallons of water. The system flows 500–2,000 gallons-per-minute of water through PVC pipes into the rearing tanks. The used water or outflow then flows through a drum filter, then a biofilter and UV sterilizer where the solids are removed, ammonia is broken down and bacteria levels are reduced. The water is then reheated, aerated and pumped back through the fish tanks. Production at the new intensive building ended 87 years of fish culture within the hatchery's original building, one which still stands and currently serves as a meeting room for the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries.

These improvements at Hackettstown fostered an impressive increase in coolwater and warmwater fish production. In 1986 the hatchery raised 50,000 fish weighing a total of 5,200 pounds. Contrast that with the first year's fish distribution from the new facility: 2.9 million fish raised totaling 18,300 pounds, representing a total of 15 species.

SWEAT AND LAUGHTER MAKE IT WORK

A common thread throughout the hatchery's 100-year history is the staff's high degree of commitment, performing whatever work was necessary to produce healthy, high-quality fish. Although it's impossible to show recognition for all the dedicated staff who have worked at

Hackettstown, a few represent the commitment and importance of each individual employee who has worked the hatchery grounds.


Three amazingly dedicated workers each retired from the hatchery with over 50 years of service: John Wiley (general foreman), Art Skinner (stocking foreman) and Dan Gilroy (feeder). Former superintendent Jim Zamos remembers Wiley well, even fifty years later. "John may not have made it past the eighth grade, but he was one of the smartest persons I knew" said Zamos. Another reliable worker was Walt Wydner who served as the hatchery's night watchmen for over forty years. Wydner's job was to check the fish in each and every pond, throughout his eight-hour shift. According to Jim Zamos, "Wydner and his flashlight saved more fish than you could possibly count."

Ed Washuta, retired fish pathologist, also remembers Wydner well. Washuta marveled that Wydner could do the same thing, hour after hour, day after day, for over 40 years. "Walt had an amazing knack for noticing a change in fish behavior that most people couldn't see," said Washuta. "I always valued Walt's opinion," he added. During the summer months when oxygen levels are most critical, Wydner spent considerable time working each of the hatchery's four water pumps to maintain proper oxygen levels.

Willis Beatty, in charge of trout distribution planning and logistics for many years at Hackettstown, was an expert at crunching numbers. Long before calculators or computers, Beatty churned out numbers using adding machines plus stacks and stacks of yellow legal pads. Rumor had it that Beatty could tell you

how many inches of trout were stocked each year by each distribution truck driver.

Unlike today at our hatcheries, historically each worker was responsible for a specific duty performed daily. Job titles included East Hatchery feeder, West Hatchery feeder, pond washer and others. Until 1982, from 25 to 33 workers were assigned full-time to the hatchery. All feeding, pond and raceway cleaning, sorting, netting and stocking was performed while the hatchery's 100,000 annual visitors looked on.

Looking back—and even looking forward—what will be remembered most is the sweat and the laughter. The "against all odds" mantra never held truer. Failure, as evidenced by all who worked at the hatchery, was never an option. Long, hard workdays; countless times retrieving a co-worker stuck in pond muck—pulled out by rope and a hatchery truck; many, many occasions when a hatchery vehicle slid into a pond; all-nighters spent listening to the drone of the back-up generator running after a power failure in order to maintain fish-rearing conditions; drilling through thick ice to feed trout in the winter; pitch-forking thousands of pounds of pond weeds to clear a path for the seine nets used to collect fish—all of this made for good stories and even better camaraderie among staff. And, all of this was all in a day's work. 

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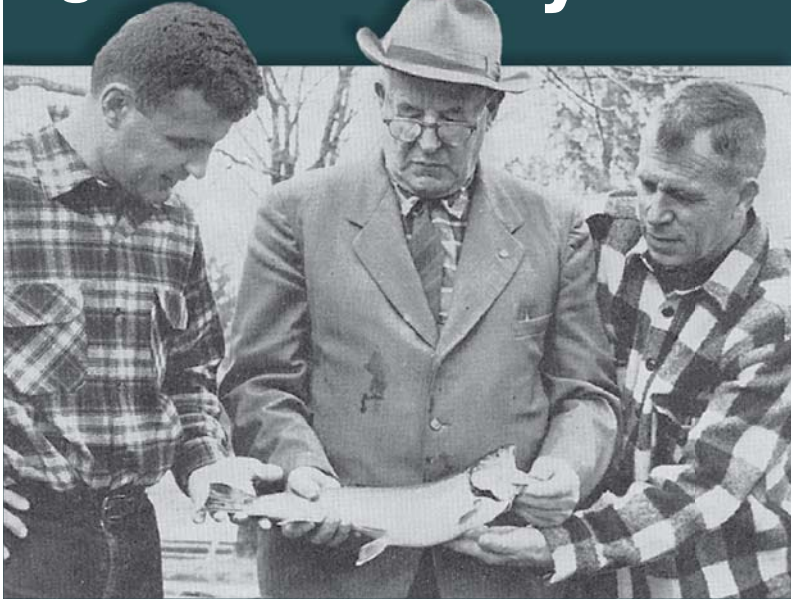
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of the SUPERINTENDENTS Hackettstown Fish Hatchery



Three hatchery superintendents admire a handsome trout produced at the Hackettstown Fish Hatchery. They are (L to R) Robert Hayford (son), Charles O. Hayford and Jim Zamos.

CHARLES O. HAYFORD

SUPERINTENDENT: *May 1912 – March 1956*
Charles O. Hayford served as the hatchery's first superintendent. On loan from Maine in 1911, he was instrumental in selecting the hatchery's location, becoming its first superintendent and overseeing the construction of the new hatchery buildings, raceways and ponds. Nicknamed "Fish Daddy," Hayford established a selective breeding program where only the largest and most well-conditioned trout were used for breeding, greatly improving the size of all future stocked trout. Hayford retired on March 31, 1956 after 45 years of service. In 1959 the Fish and Game Council, along with Governor Robert E. Meyner, renamed the hatchery in his honor, the Charles O. Hayford State Fish Hatchery. During his years as Superintendent, Hayford also served as president of the American Fisheries Society (1924) and was elected to be a lifetime honorary member in the society 28 years later.

ROBERT HAYFORD

SUPERINTENDENT: *April 1956 – March 1957*
Robert Hayford took over as hatchery superintendent after his father retired. The younger Hayford's interests were concentrated in fish pathology; he took particular interest in diagnosing why fish died. To this end, Hayford employed a private tutor—Dr. George Embody, a Cornell University professor—who spent many years at the hatchery conducting experiments in fish culture. Hayford also focused on culturing warmwater species such as bass. He remarked, "All species of fish must be utilized in some manner, for there is a place for each species in the program of good fish management." Superintendent for only one year, Hayford moved on to become chief of the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries.

JAMES ZAMOS

SUPERINTENDENT: *April 1957 – June 1960*
Jim Zamos instituted the practice of taking monthly fish length measurements in each pond, providing accurate information to track

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trout growth for the first time in the hatchery's history. He worked toward integrating the hatchery drivers with other work crews at the facility. Zamos recognized the need—and took steps—to protect the hatchery's surrounding watershed to ensure a clean and ample cold water supply. He departed Fish and Wildlife in 1960 but today remains an active birder, enjoying the outdoors.

ROBERT WILLIAMS

SUPERINTENDENT: July 1960 – Jan 1986

In several ways, Bob Williams was seen as the last in a line of superintendents from another era. Staff addressed him as “Mr. Williams,” a formality lost at the end of his reign. Instead of directing his energies toward fish culture, Williams’ primary concerns focused on working with administrators in Trenton, with the Fish and Game Council, with planning of hatchery operations and with personnel matters. He witnessed the long epoch of trout culture end at Hackettstown as the state’s new Pequest Trout

Hatchery, located just a few miles away, became fully operational in 1986.

KURT POWERS

SUPERINTENDENT: Feb 1986 – March 1992

Originally from Massachusetts, Kurt Powers joined Fish and Wildlife in 1977. Powers, along with Assistant Superintendent Bob Olsen, renovated the old hatchery building system into a re-circulating system. Heat exchangers now pre-warmed the incoming spring water by utilizing the otherwise wasted, heated water exiting the system, thereby greatly increasing efficiency at a significant cost savings. This was the design premise of the new intensive building soon to follow. Powers implemented a water displacement method to count and load fish onto distribution trucks. Plexiglas sight tubes were mounted on the trucks’ sides. Trucks were filled with water until they reached the “fully loaded” mark, as if filled with the proper trout allocation plus enough water to sustain them on distribution day in the hatchery

truck. An appropriate amount of water was “weighed off” representing the water that will be displaced by the planned volume of trout for that day’s load. Trout were then loaded into the truck until water in the sight tubes returned to the original target level. This allowed trucks to be loaded much more quickly with less direct handling of the fish. This system is still used today at the Pequest Trout Hatchery. Powers moved on to a supervising biologist position over-seeing both hatcheries, and later to Chief of the Bureau of Marine Fisheries until his retirement in 2006.

BOB OLSEN


SUPERINTENDENT: April 1992 – Sept 2001

As the next superintendent, Bob Olsen saw the installation of Fish and Wildlife’s new state of the art intensive culture building. The entirely new system was not without problems as it was one of largest re-circulating culture system ever designed. Through his determination and many long hours, Olsen and crew supervisor

Craig Lemon resolved the obstacles. In 2001, Bob Olsen took a position with Fish and Wildlife’s Bureau of Lands Management.

CRAIG LEMON

SUPERINTENDENT: Oct 2001 – Present

Craig Lemon has supervised the hatchery during some of its best and darkest days. While making the final adjustments on the new intensive building Lemon directed the Children’s Fishing Derby Program. At its pinnacle, 129 events reached over 25,000 adults and children in one year. Regretfully, shortly thereafter the program was discontinued due to critical staffing shortages. For over three years, Lemon, Ed Conley (crew supervisor) and Ron Jacobsen (fisheries technician) were the *only* full time staff covering the 230 acre facility. Assisted by a group of dedicated seasonal employees—Nick Healy, Jim Hartobey, Linda Morschauer, Sarah Shoemaker, Tyler Tressler, and Ryan Votta—the facility remained at full operating capacity through the sheer determination of the staff. 

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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. Regulations in red are new this year. Purple text indicates an important note.

Licenses

- A valid New Jersey fishing license is required for residents at least 16 years and less than 70 years of age (plus all non-residents 16 years and older) to fish the fresh waters of New Jersey, including privately owned waters.
- Resident anglers age 70 and over do not require a fishing license. A driver's license or other acceptable proof of age containing date of birth and physical description will serve as the actual fishing 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 at least six months to obtain a resident fishing 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 sporting licenses revoked for a minimum of two years.

Trout Stamps

A valid fishing license and trout stamp are both required to fish for or possess trout and salmon for all anglers (residents and non-residents) 16 and over, and residents under the age of 70. No trout stamp is required for residents age 70 years and over.

Purchasing a License

Licenses may be purchased by phone at (888) 773-8450, online at www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com or at license agents such as sporting goods stores plus bait and tackle shops. Visit our Web site at NJFishandWildlife.com for details, or call (609) 292-2965. The Trenton Fish and Wildlife office is no longer open to the public for license or permit sales.

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.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com also linked through our regular Web site at NJFishandWildlife.com or by phone at (888) 773-8450.

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, legislation defines disabled veterans as "...any resident of New Jersey who has been honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active service from any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and who has been declared by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs, or its successor, to have 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

Applications for disabled veteran certification and your first disabled veteran license may be made via the mail by sending the application and all required documentation to Pequest Trout Hatchery/Natural Resource Ed. Ctr, Disabled Veteran Applications, 605 Pequest Rd., Oxford, NJ 07863.

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 (archery, shotgun or rifle) course 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) 292-9530 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.
- When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, handlines or combination thereof may be used (except on the

2012 License Fees and Information

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

Licenses

Resident Fishing	
Ages 16–64 yrs.....	\$22.50
Senior Resident Fishing	
Ages 65–69 yrs.....	\$12.50
70 & over.....	Free
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

Delaware River, see page 28). **For the Delaware River the three rod limit applies both to boat and shoreline anglers** (see page 28).

- 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 28.
- Possess a fishing device with more than nine hooks in total, or more than three treble hooks, except for the Delaware River; see page 28.
- Use set lines.
- Use cast nets in freshwater lakes or trout stocked waters. See *Baitfish Regulations*, page 30 for other exclusions.
- Foul hook or snag any species of fish. This does not apply to fish taken through the ice.

Bow and Arrow Fishing

Carp, including bighead, common, grass and silver—as well as, eels, flathead catfish, both American and gizzard shad, snakeheads and suckers—may be taken at any time by use of a bow and arrow (with a line attached to the arrow) when in possession of a valid fishing license. See regulations for the Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, pages 28–29. Crossbows are NOT permitted for fishing.

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 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

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-Pequanook 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 Lake Deforest					

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 ½-inch from point to shaft;
2. An artificial jigging lure with not more than one burr of three hooks that measure not more than ½-inch from point to point;
3. An artificial jigging lure with not more than three single hooks measuring not more than ½-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.

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

Potentially Dangerous Fish

The possession or release of live, potentially dangerous fish is prohibited. These species include Asian swamp eel, bighead, grass (diploid) and silver carp, brook stickleback, green sunfish, flathead catfish, oriental weatherfish, snakehead and warmouth. Anglers **MUST** destroy these species if encountered while fishing and are directed to submit specimen(s) or photos to a Fish and Wildlife Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries biologist for verification. To reach a biologist, call (908) 236-2118 for north Jersey or (856) 629-4950

for south Jersey. These non-native species are likely to cause environmental harm to the state's fisheries resources by outcompeting preferred game fish species.

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

2012 REGULATIONS

Regulations in **red** are new this year.
Purple text indicates an important note.

2012 General Trout Fishing Information

- Opening day of trout season: Saturday, April 7, 2012 at 8 a.m.
- To fish for trout or salmon, a valid annual New Jersey 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.
- Waters stocked with trout in the spring are listed below (those with no in-season closures) AND on page 20 (those *with* in-season closures). **Note:** Special regulations may apply on some of these waters, or sections thereof.
- During the three weeks prior to opening day, all ponds, lakes or sections of streams are stocked with trout, except Trophy Trout Lakes. These waters are closed to fishing for all species from March 19 to April 7 at 8 a.m. Exceptions: Farrington Lake, 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 and Year-round Trout Conservation Areas and designated Holdover Trout Lakes (see pages 21–22) 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 7, 2012. Round Valley and Merrill Creek Reservoirs (Trophy Trout Lakes) are open to year-round fishing; trout may be harvested within the regulations as shown on page 22.
- After opening day, trout stocked waters are open to fishing, including the days they are stocked, unless specifically listed with in-season closures (page 20). In-season closures also apply to designated Seasonal Trout Conservation Areas (page 21), and Fly-Fishing Only areas.
- 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.
- **When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, hand lines or combination thereof may be used.**
- 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 are closed to fishing from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on their designated stocking dates. Closures apply to all tributaries for 100 feet from the main channel. **There are no closures for ANY waters in the fall.**

Note: All waters listed are stocked with trout pre-season (the three-week period preceding opening day) except Round Valley and Merrill Creek reservoirs. The number in parentheses indicates the anticipated number of in-season stockings (from April 7 through May 25). A zero indicates the water will be stocked only during pre-season. 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 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)
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

Ponderlodge Pond—Villas (4)
Tuckahoe Lake—Tuckahoe (4)

Cumberland County

Cohansey River—Dam at Seeleys Pond to powerline above Sunset Lake, Bridgeton (4)
Giampietro Park Lake—Vineland (0)
Mary Elmer Lake—Bridgeton (3)
Maurice River—Willow Grove Lake dam to Sherman Ave., Vineland (4)
Shaws Mill Pond—Newport (3)
South Vineland Park Pond—Vineland (3)

Essex County

Branch Brook Park Lake—Newark (4)
Diamond Mill Pond—Millburn (3)
Rahway River, W/Br.—Campbells Pond to Glen Ave. (Milburn) (3)
Verona Park Lake—Verona (4)

Gloucester County

Greenwich Lake—Gibbstown (3)
Grenloch Lake—Turnersville (3)
Harrisonville Lake—Harrisonville (3)
Iona Lake—Iona (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

Alexauken Creek—West Amwell, entire length (2)
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)
Locketong Creek—Kingwood Twp., entire length (5)
Mannys 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/Everittstown, entire length (2)
Rockaway Creek—Readington Twp., entire length (4)
Rockaway Creek, S/Br.—Lebanon to Whitehouse, entire length (5)
Round Valley Reservoir—Clinton Twp. (0)
Sidney Brook—Grandin, entire length (1)
Spruce Run—Glen Gardner and Lebanon Twp., entire length (5)

OPENING DAY of TROUT SEASON

- ▶ April 7, 2012
- ▶ April 6, 2013
- ▶ April 5, 2014
- ▶ April 4, 2015
- ▶ April 9, 2016

Wickecheoke 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 **Wilburtha Rd. bridge** (6)
 Rosedale Lake—Rosedale (3)
 Stony Brook—Woodsville to Port Mercer (4)

Middlesex County

Farrington Lake—North Brunswick (3)
 Hook's 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 Rd. 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

Barbour's Pond—West Paterson (3)
 Clinton Reservoir—Newark Watershed (3)
 Green Turtle Pond—Long Pond Ironworks State Park, Hewitt (3)
 Oldham Pond—North Haledon (3)
 Pequannock River—Rt. 23, Smith Mills 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)
 Schadler's Sand Wash Pond—Penns Grove (3)

Somerset County

Lamington River—Rt. 523 (Lamington Rd.) 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

Alm's 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 Rt. 23 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—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—Roselle (0)

Warren County

Beaver Brook—Silver Lake Dam to Pequest River (4)
 Blair Creek—Hardwick Center to Blair Lake (2)
 Blair Lake—Blairstown (3)
Brookaloo Swamp - Hope, entire length (2)
 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—**Knowlton-Hope township line to Beaver Brook, Hope Twp. (2)**
 Jacksonburg Creek—Jacksonburg, entire length (2)
 Lopatcong Creek—Rt. 519 Harmony Twp., 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)
 Trout Brook—Hackettstown, entire length (2)
 White Lake—Hardwick Twp. (3) 

▶▶ 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.



Regulations in **red** are new this year.
 Purple text indicates an important note.

General Trout Fishing Regulations

BROOK, BROWN & RAINBOW TROUT (and their hybrids and strains)			
Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Exceptions
January 1–March 18	9 inches	4	1. Trout-stocked waters with spring 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 19–April 7 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 28–29.
March 19–April 7 at 8 a.m.	Fishing prohibited on trout stocked waters. Catch and release for trout in all other waters.		
April 7 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 22

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

After opening day, these waters are closed to fishing from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on their designated stocking dates. 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	County	Location
MONDAYS April 9, 16, 23, 30 May 7, 14, 21	Manasquan River	Monmouth	Rt. 9 bridge downstream to Bennetts Bridge, Manasquan WMA
	Metedeconk River, N/Br.	Ocean	Aldrich Rd. bridge to Ridge Ave.
	Metedeconk River, S/Br.	Ocean	Bennetts Mill dam to twin wooden foot bridge, opposite Lake Park Blvd. on South Lake Dr., Lakewood
	Rockaway River	Morris	Longwood Lake dam (Jefferson Twp.) to Jersey City Reservoir in Boonton
	Toms River	Ocean	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.)
	Walkill River	Sussex	Lake Mohawk dam to Rt. 23, Hamburg
TUESDAYS April 10, 17, 24 May 1, 8, 15, 22	Pohatcong Creek	Warren	Rt. 31 to Delaware River
	Raritan River, S/Br.	Morris, Somerset, Hunterdon	Budd Lake dam to junction with N/Br. Raritan River (Exception: the sections regulated as a Year-Round Trout Conservation Areas; see separate regulation.)
WEDNESDAYS April 11, 18, 25 May 2, 9, 16, 23	Raritan River, N/Br.	Somerset	Peapack Rd. bridge in Far Hills to junction with S/Br. Raritan River
THURSDAYS April 12, 19, 26 May 3, 10, 17, 24	Black River	Morris	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.	Sussex, Warren	Limecrest RR spur bridge on E/Br., Sparta Twp., and Warbasse Jct. Rd. (Rt. 663) on W/Br., Lafayette Twp., to Columbia
	Ramapo River	Bergen	State line to Pompton Lake (excluding Potash Lake)
FRIDAYS April 13, 20, 27 May 4, 11, 18, 25	Big Flat Brook	Sussex	100 ft. above Steam Mill bridge on Crigger Rd. in Stokes State Forest to Delaware River (Note: See special regulations pertaining to <i>Fly Fishing Areas</i> .)
	Musconetcong River	Sussex, Morris, Warren and Hunterdon	Lake Hopatcong dam to Delaware River including all main stem impoundments except for Lake Musconetcong (Exception: the section regulated as a Year Round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)
	Pequest River	Warren and Sussex	Source downstream to Delaware River (Exception: the section regulated as a Seasonal Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)
	Wanaque River	Passaic	Greenwood Lake dam to Wanaque Reservoir dam and from Wanaque Ave. bridge, Pompton Lakes to jct. with Pequannock River, excluding the Wanaque and Monksville reservoirs.

Trout Conservation Areas (TCAs)

YEAR ROUND TCAs			
Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Restrictions (in effect year round)
Jan. 1–March 18	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 19–April 7 at 8 a.m.	Catch and release only		
April 7 at 8 a.m.–Dec. 31	15 inches	1 (see #3 at right)	
Year Round TCA Waterbody (County)			Driving Directions *
Musconetcong River—Point Mountain Stretch (Hunterdon/Warren) Penwell Rd. bridge downstream to Point Mountain Rd. bridge (approx. 1.2 miles)			Rt. 31 to Rt. 57 E. Upper boundary: turn right on Penwell Rd. Lower boundary: turn right on Point Mountain Rd. Parking areas located near each bridge.
Raritan S/Br—Ken Lockwood Gorge (Hunterdon) Section of S/Br within the Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area (approx. 2.5 miles)			Road in gorge is closed to through traffic, Rt. 31 to Rt. 513. Upper boundary: turn right at Hoffman's Crossing Rd., take first right after bridge. Lower boundary: turn right on Silverthorne-Cokesbury Rd., turn left after crossing river. Park only in designated areas.
Raritan S/Br—Claremont Stretch (Morris) 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) 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 18	15 inches	1	1. <i>Only artificial lures may be used.</i> 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 River—fishing is not permitted during the first six in-season stocking closure dates. (See <i>Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring Stocking Dates</i> , page 20). Fishing is permitted during the last in-season stocking closure date (May 25), but all trout caught between 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. must immediately be released.
March 19–April 7	Catch and release only		
April 7 (12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m.)	Fishing prohibited		
April 7 at 8 a.m.–May 20 Gear restrictions do not apply	9 inches	6	
May 21–Dec. 31	15 inches	1	
Seasonal TCA Waterbody (County)			Driving Directions *
Pequannock River (Morris/Passaic) Railroad trestle below Appelt Park, Bloomingdale, downstream to Hamburg Turnpike bridge, Pompton Lakes (approx. 1.3 miles)			I-287 (Exit 53). Proceed west on (Paterson) Hamburg Turnpike .34 miles. Right on Brant Ln. Railroad trestle below Appelt Park is the upstream boundary.
Pequest River (Warren) Conrail Railroad bridge, located upstream of the Pequest Trout Hatchery Access Road, downstream to Rt. 625 (Pequest Furnace Rd.) bridge (approx. 1.4 miles)			Rt. 31 to Rt. 46 E, approx. 4 mi. to Pequest Trout Hatchery; paved parking lot.

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

Fly Fishing Areas

Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Restrictions
Jan. 1–March 18	9 inches	4	1. Only artificial flies may be used, specifically 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 <i>Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring In-Season Stocking Dates</i> , page 20.)
March 19–April 7 at 8 a.m.	Fishing prohibited		
April 7 at 8 a.m.–April 15 at 5 a.m. No gear restrictions except on Blewett Tract	9 inches	6	
April 16 at 5 a.m.–May 31	9 inches	6	
June 1–Dec. 31	9 inches	4	
Waterbody (County)		Location	
Big Flat Brook (Sussex)		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)		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.	

Regulations in red are new this year.
Purple text indicates an important note.

Trout Lakes

TROPHY TROUT LAKES				
Waterbody (County)	Species	Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Merrill Creek Reservoir (Warren)	Brown & Rainbow Trout and their hybrids	Open year round	15 inches	2
		Jan. 1–Sept. 15	15 inches	2
	Lake Trout	Sept. 16–Nov. 30	Catch and release only	
		Dec. 1–Dec. 31	15 inches	2
Round Valley Reservoir (Hunterdon)	Brown & Rainbow Trout and their hybrids	Open year round	15 inches	2
		Jan. 1–Sept. 15	15 to less than 24 inches AND greater than or equal to 24 inches	6 AND 1
	Lake Trout	Sept. 16–Nov. 30	Catch and release only	
		Dec. 1–Dec. 31	15 to less than 24 inches AND greater than or equal to 24 inches	6 AND 1
HOLDOVER TROUT LAKES				
Waterbody (County)	Species	Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Clinton Reservoir (Passaic)	Brook, Brown & Rainbow Trout and their hybrids	Jan. 1–March 18	9 inches	2
Lake Aeroflex* (Sussex)		March 19–April 7 at 8 a.m.	Catch and release only	
Lake Wawayanda* (Sussex)		April 7 at 8 a.m.–May 31	9 inches	4
Sheppard Lake (Passaic)		June 1–Dec. 31	9 inches	2
White Lake (Warren)	Landlocked Atlantic Salmon	Jan. 1–March 18	12 inches	2
		March 19–April 7 at 8 a.m.	Catch and release only	
		April 7 at 8 a.m.–Dec. 31	12 inches	2

*Waterbodies stocked with salmon

Wild Trout Streams

Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Location	Restrictions
Jan. 1–April 7 at 8 a.m.	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 7 at 8 a.m.–Sept. 15	9 inches	2	Statewide (exceptions below)	
April 7 at 8 a.m.–Sept. 15	12 inches Brown Trout	2 combined	Pequannock River, Van Campens Brook and Wanaque River. See designated sections below.	
	9 inches Rainbow & Brook Trout			
Sept. 16–Dec. 31	Catch and release only		Statewide	

Wild Trout Streams (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) (Johnstonburg) Dunnfield Creek (Worthington S.F.) 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 (Montague) 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. and from Rt. 23 bridge at Smoke Rise downstream to the Rt. 23 bridge at Smith Mills)	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) Trot Brook (Hacklebarney S.P.) Turkey Brook (Mt. Olive) Van Campens Brook (Del. Water Gap Nat. Rec. Area)	Wanaque River (Wanaque Reservoir Dam downstream to Wanaque Ave. bridge—Pompton Lakes) West Brook (source downstream to Windbeam Club property) Whippany 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 28)

Locations	Species	Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Delaware River	All trout species	April 14 at 8 a.m.–Oct. 15 (Trout caught at other times must be released immediately.)	No minimum	5

Hackettstown Hatchery as a

HAVEN FOR WILDLIFE



Common Merganser (female)



Belted Kingfisher




Mink



Red-tailed Hawk

The Charles O. Hayford Hatchery, located in bustling Hackettstown, produces over two million fish each year. However, the hatchery's 230 acres, comprised mainly of ponds, also serve as a refuge for numerous species of wildlife year-round. Raptors such as the bald eagle and red tail hawk soar over ponds visited by waterfowl such as pintail, merganser, gadwall, ringneck, young wood duck and canvasback.

Kingfisher, plus an assortment of herons (of the great blue, green and night-crowned varieties) are often seen stealing treats from the fish production ponds. In the spring, killdeer nests are found scattered through short grasses or on nearly bare ground, with clever parent birds displaying their "broken wing" ruse to distract hatchery staff away from the nest when they pass by. In the winter, a gray screech owl is often seen slumbering in one of the numerous wood duck nesting boxes scattered throughout the hatchery. Mink and muskrats burrows can be seen along the pond banks, while white-tailed deer and red fox appear in the quiet early morning and evening hours. 

Photos by Craig Lemon/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife, except mink by Tyler Tresslar/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife.



Screech Owl

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

Fish Identification

NEW JERSEY FRESHWATER FISHES



Largemouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass



Redbreast Sunfish



Pumpkinseed Sunfish



Bluegill Sunfish



Black Crappie



White Crappie



Channel Catfish



White Catfish



Brown Bullhead



White Sucker



American Shad











Common Carp

Illustrations: Duane Raver/USFWS

Fishing Regulations

SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS








Certain waters are closed to fishing for all species from March 19 to April 7, 2012 at 8 a.m. because of trout stocking.
Refer to pages 18–19 for complete lists and exceptions. **For Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, see regulations on pages 28–29.**

	SEASON	LOCATION	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
LARGEMOUTH & SMALLMOUTH BASS				
 Largemouth Bass	Jan. 1–April 14 April 15–June 15 Catch & Release only (all waters) June 16–Dec. 31	Statewide (exceptions below)	12 inches	5 combined
 Smallmouth Bass		Lunker Bass Lakes: Alloway, Assunpink, Parvin, Delaware lakes, Splitrock Reservoir	15 inches	3 combined
		Conservation Regulations: Ryker Lake	15 inches	2 combined
	Year-Round	Lake Audrey	Catch & Release only	0
NORTHERN PIKE, TIGER MUSKY, MUSKELLUNGE				
 Northern Pike	Open year round March 20–May 20 are Catch & Release only for Echo Lake Reservoir, Mercer Lake, Mountain Lake, Monksville Reservoir	Statewide	Northern Pike: 24 inches	2
 Muskellunge		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 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 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

Regulations in **red** are new this year.
 Purple text indicates an important note.

	SEASON	LOCATION	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
AMERICAN SHAD				
 American Shad	Open year round	Statewide	No minimum size	3
CHANNEL CATFISH				
 Channel Catfish	Open year round	Statewide	12 inches	5
CRAPPIE (BLACK AND WHITE)				
 Crappie	Open year round	Statewide	8 inches	10 combined
SUNFISH and ALL OTHER SPECIES WITH NO SPECIFIED CREEL LIMITS				
 Rock Bass, White Perch, Yellow Perch, Sunfish (see below for sunfish exceptions), Bullheads, White Catfish, Suckers, Carp, Bowfin, Pumpkinseed and all other species with no specified creel limit.	Open year round	Statewide (exceptions below)	No minimum size	25 combined
		Conservation Regulation Ryker Lake	Sunfish: 7 inches	10 combined
			Yellow Perch: No minimum size	10
 Conservation Regulation Rainbow Lake (Salem Co.)		Sunfish: 7 inches	10 combined	
BANDED, BLACKBANDED, BLUESPOTTED AND MUD SUNFISH				
 Banded Sunfish* Blackbanded Sunfish*	Closed	Statewide	Protected	0
 Bluespotted Sunfish* Mud Sunfish				
FRESHWATER BAITFISH (See page 30 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, 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 19 to June 15	Statewide	No minimum Exception American Eel: 6 inches	35 combined, of which no more than ten may be alewife or blue-back herring**

* Illustrations by Ted Walke, PA Fish and Boat Commission

** DUE TO SERIOUS DECLINES IN RIVER HERRING NUMBERS, THE TAKING OF ALEWIFE AND BLUEBACK HERRING IS ANTICIPATED TO BE PROHIBITED BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2012. BE SURE TO CHECK FISH AND WILDLIFE'S WEB SITE, NJFishandWildlife.com, FOR UPDATES.

Fishing Regulations

BOUNDARY WATERS

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. Regulations in **red** are new this year. Purple text indicates an important note.



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 **three** 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 carp, catfish, shad and suckers 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 13	12 inches	5 combined
	June 16–Dec.31		
	April 14–June 15	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	10 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	3
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 14 at 8 a.m.–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

* DUE TO SERIOUS DECLINES IN RIVER HERRING NUMBERS, THE TAKING OF ALEWIFE AND BLUEBACK HERRING IS ANTICIPATED TO BE PROHIBITED BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2012. BE SURE TO CHECK FISH AND WILDLIFE'S WEB SITE, NJFishandWildlife.com, FOR UPDATES.

** 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. Daily limit of 50.

*** Pennsylvania allows anglers to harvest a daily limit of two striped bass measuring 20 to 26 inches for a two month period from April 1, 2012 through May 31, 2012, from the Calhoun St. Bridge in Trenton downstream to the Pennsylvania state line. New Jersey still has a closed

season. Anglers fishing the Delaware River from the New Jersey shoreline, or returning to New Jersey by boat and/or car in April and May must abide by New Jersey's striped bass regulations. Possession of striped bass in New Jersey is illegal during this time period.

- A listing of fishing access locations along the Delaware River is available at Fish and Wildlife's Web site, NJFishandWildlife.com, under Freshwater Fishing.
- 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.



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–June 15	Catch and release only	
	June 16–Dec. 1	12 inches	5 combined
	Dec. 1–Dec. 31	Catch and release only	
Catfish, Channel	Open year round	12 inches	5
Crappie, Black & White	Open year round	8 inches	10 combined
Muskellunge & Hybrids	Open year round	36 inches	1
Perch, Yellow	Open year round	No minimum	50
Pickerel, Chain	Open year round	15 inches	5
Sunfish	Open year round	No minimum	50 combined
Walleye	Jan. 1–Feb. 29	18 inches	3
	March 1–April 30	Catch and release only	
	May 1–Dec. 31	18 inches	3
All Other Species	Open year round	No minimum	No limit

▶▶ FRESHWATER FISHERIES FORUMS



Shawn Crouse/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

Note the fluorescent tag behind the eye of this wild brook trout which was marked and released for a trout movement study.

1st Forum:
Feb. 25, 2012; 10 a.m.
Batsto Village Visitor's Center
in Wharton State Forest

2nd Forum:
Dec. 1, 2012; 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. Regulations in red are new this year. Purple text indicates an important note.

See separate regulations for Delaware River (page 28).
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, bluntnose minnow, 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 10 in aggregate.

(See separate regulations for boundary waters, pages 28–29.)

Season	Location	Minimum size	Daily limit
Open year round	Statewide (freshwaters)	No minimum size	35 per day species combined, of which no more than ten may be alewife or blueback herring*
Exception Season closed March 19–June 15 on trout stocked waters and special regulation trout areas		Exception American eel: 6 inches	

Notes: Any person with a valid fishing license (or those under 16 and residents 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. 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.

* DUE TO SERIOUS DECLINES IN RIVER HERRING NUMBERS, THE TAKING OF ALEWIFE AND BLUEBACK HERRING IS ANTICIPATED TO BE PROHIBITED BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2012. BE SURE TO CHECK FISH AND WILDLIFE'S WEB SITE, NJFishandWildlife.com, FOR UPDATES.

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 commercial harvest permit issued by Fish and Wildlife at its discretion. Contact (908) 236-2118 for application information.

MOTOR BOAT REGISTRATION & TITLE REQUIREMENTS

Motor Boat Registration and Title Requirements

NJ Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC)

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 (incl. electric motors), 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 that are operating under a federally approved numbering system from another state
- 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.

Boat Operator License (MVC)

An operator license is required to operate power vessels on fresh, non-tidal waters such as lakes, creeks and rivers. (Minimum age 16 years; with certain exceptions.)

For More Information:

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission
(888) 486-3339 toll free in NJ or
(609) 292-6500 from out-of-state
www.nj.gov/mvc/

Boat Safety Certificate (NJSP)

A boat safety certificate (from an **approved** boat safety course; see NJSP Web site, below) is required to operate a personal watercraft or power vessel, including electric motors, in NJ waters (tidal and non-tidal).

New Jersey State Police (NJSP)

(609) 882-2000
www.njsp.org/maritime

Take me fishing!

The memories will last a lifetime.

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New Jersey's FREE Freshwater Fishing Days

June 16 and 17, 2012

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

March 31 and April 1, 2012
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! 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 NJFishandWildlife.com

▶▶ DISPLAY YOUR LICENSE: IT'S THE LAW!

Show your support of Fish and Wildlife activities and programs.



Trout in the Classroom (TIC)

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) is a science-based program that teaches children the importance of coldwater conservation through a hands-on learning approach. Over 14,000 New Jersey students participate in the TIC program annually.



Schools receive brook trout eggs in mid-October from our Pequest Trout Hatchery. Students hatch and raise the trout, monitor water quality, learn fish biology, anatomy and much more as part of this cross-curricular, hands-on format. At the end of the school year students release their fish into approved streams.

Trout in the Classroom is an exciting, inexpensive program enlivening year-round curricula nationwide. For more information about the TIC program, visit NJTroutInTheClassroom.org.

Teen Anglers Youth Days

9th Annual Pequest
July 21, 2012

New Jersey Teen Angler Chapters:

- Garfield New Jersey
John Nasuta
phantombuckusa@optonline.net

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

HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Continue the Tradition

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

Our Hunter Education Unit is looking for New Jersey's best sportsmen and sportswomen to become instructors at locations where students take the test and field course after first having completed the home study portion. A minimum of six weekend days each year are required.

Call (856) 629-0552

Leave your name and address to receive an application. Or visit our Web site:

NJFishandWildlife.com



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
Pennsauken 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. 553 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—Whitecar 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.

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.
 Regulations in red are new this year. Purple text indicates an important note.

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. A second violation of *any* WMA regulation will result in a five-year loss of *all* sporting licenses and privileges.

Information on these regulations and permit applications may be obtained by writing to New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420.

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 on designated WMAs only by permit from the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Apply online at www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. 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, 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.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com.

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 NJ-GeoWeb. Those with Internet access can create maps for any Wildlife Management Area. NJ-GeoWeb provides a wealth of other environmental information, too!

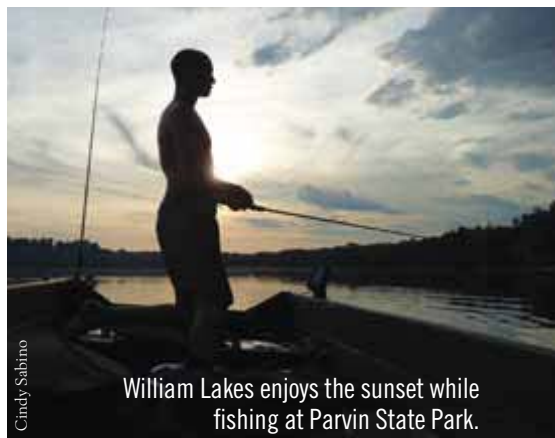


This interactive program is updated on a regular basis so most of the latest information is available.

To access NJ-GeoWeb, go to the DEP's Web site at www.state.nj.us/dep/gis/geoweb/splash.htm. Click on "Launch NJ - GeoWeb, then GeoWeb Profile."

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

i-MapNJ



William Lakes enjoys the sunset while fishing at Parvin State Park.

Cindy Sabino

ACCESSIBILITY ■ Accessible Fishing Sites



For people with disabilities, visit: 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.

LIFE CYCLE of a Fish Hatchery

Craig Lemon, Superintendent, Hackettstown Hatchery

Mother Nature dictates the start of the hatchery season each year as we await the melting ice pack covering Budd Lake, occurring anywhere from early March to late April.

Adult northern pike are the first target species each year. Northerns spawn as soon as the ice is out, providing about a seven-day window for us to collect brood stock.

Large trap nets are set in the lake's shallows. Fish encounter, then follow long mesh aprons leading them into a large mesh enclosure. Hatchery staff check the trap nets almost daily. Once brought to the hatchery, the fish are anesthetized to reduce stress while eggs and milt are collected. Eggs are incubated in McDonald jars in 52-degree water and hatch in 10 days. Five days after hatching the sac fry have absorbed their yolk and swim up into the water column looking for food.

Following the northern pike collection, hatchery crews reset the trap nets, this time in Swartswood Lake in search of walleye. In about four days, five million walleye eggs are collected. Efforts switch once again, this time the target species is *the fish of 10,000 casts*—muskellunge—at Greenwood Lake and Echo Lake Reservoir.

Both walleye and musky eggs hatch in 15 days. Once hatched and free-swimming, walleye fry are grown entirely in the outside ponds while muskie fry remain inside for a while longer on a diet of brine shrimp and dry feed.

April showers—plus millions of gallons of both brook and spring water—help our crews to fill many of the east and west hatcheries' 65 earthen ponds that were drained before winter. The ponds range in size from ¼ acre to 5 acres. When nearly full, each pond is fertilized with pulverized alfalfa meal. The fertilizer, when combined with sunlight, produces phytoplankton and zooplankton blooms on which the tiny

fry will feed for the first 50 days of their lives.

Northern pike, walleye and muskellunge fry are now transported from the intensive culture building and placed into the ponds.

As waters warm and the northern pike, walleye and muskie fry grow rapidly feeding on the abundant plankton, our staff's focus shifts to warm water species such as largemouth bass, smallmouth bass and hybrid striped bass. Smallmouth and largemouth bass adults are placed in ponds at a density of 40-50 per pond. Males clear out a spawning bed then herd over a ready female to lay her eggs. He follows, depositing his fertilizing milt over the eggs. They guard their nests and in one to two weeks, depending on water temperatures, the eggs hatch; the fry swim up out of the rock and gravel spawning bed.

Like clockwork, each Memorial Day weekend finds hatchery crews netting smallmouth bass fry in the East Hatchery. Wearing chest waders and using short, fine mesh seines (nets), the crew will capture schools of fry ranging in size from 200–2,000 fish, then transfer them by bucket to a separate fertilized pond where the fry will grow for the next few months. If left in the original ponds, adult bass would feed on the newly hatched young.

Just after moving all smallmouth fry, the crew begins to walk the largemouth bass brood ponds in search of the first schools of the year. Largemouth fry will school into tighter groups than other bass and can number up to 5,000 fish per group.

Pond water temperatures reaching into the 70s announces the hybrid striped bass spawning season. Also known as a *whiper*, this hybrid is a cross between striped bass and white bass. This exotic white bass is not available in New Jersey, so 300,000 five-day-old fry are purchased from



▲ Removing channel catfish egg mass from a spawning barrel.

Delmarva Aquatics in Delaware. These fry are placed in a one-acre fertilized pond and grown for 40 days on zooplankton until the fish reach a size of 1.5 inches.

Next, the pond water level is lowered, the weeds and algae removed and the hybrid striped fingerlings are netted and brought into the intensive fish culture building. Fingerlings are divided among 350-gallon circular fiberglass tanks; their diet is converted to a dry, pelleted feed. Once converted the fingerlings grow quickly to the desired stocking size of four inches.

With all the bass now in production, focus turns to channel catfish. Pickup truck loads of 30-gallon catfish spawning barrels are hauled down to the hatchery's two brood stock ponds. It's the middle of June and pond water temperatures are reaching 80 degrees. The barrels have a one-foot hole cut into one end; placement is in shallow water along the shoreline. The cats pair-up and lay their eggs on a flat rock that was set into the barrel's bottom.

Every barrel is checked by hand for egg masses twice weekly. Unlike other species, channel cats lay their eggs in a gelatinous mass weighing between one to five pounds. Once brought into the hatchery, the matrix holding the mass together is chemically dissolved; the eggs are incubated in McDonald hatching jars. In 80-degree water the eggs hatch quickly—three to five days—and the fry are ready to feed just a few days later.

Summer is all about fish growth. In the warm, fertile water the fingerlings grow at an amazing rate. Hatchery staff continues fertilizing and feeding ponds and closely monitoring water quality parameters such as dissolved oxygen, temperature and Secchi disk readings which indicate water clarity. Fish sampling is an important tool for monitoring growth at this time. The number of fish per pound/weight is assessed both in the intensive building and the



▲ Grading hybrid striped bass fingerlings.



▲ Taking eggs from a ripe female walleye.



▲ Five million walleye eggs incubating in McDonald hatching jars.

seining ponds. Length measurements are taken on species such as bass and walleye.


It is critical to harvest the ponds as soon as fish reach their targeted size which varies from species to species. Although warm water means great fish growth, it also has a down side. Warm water holds less oxygen; rapid weed and algae growth, then decay, can deplete oxygen further. In addition, the physical interference of all that plant material must be addressed. Inevitably each year, several ponds require staff to spend hours harvesting weeds by pitch fork and good old elbow grease before the fish can be collected.

Once pond water levels are lowered and weeds are tackled, the pond can be netted. Seine nets from 25 to 80 feet long with varying mesh sizes of 1/8-inch, 1/4-inch and 1/2-inch are used to drag the “netting area,” created by the pitch forks. The first net usually tells the story of how the last few months of feeding and fertilizing have progressed. Over the past 25 years, some first-retrieved nets have contained zero fish; some have had 100,000 fish.

As autumn begins, most species are reaching their target sizes. Indoor intensive tanks and the outdoor ponds are emptied of fish systematically, several each week. Six-inch northern pike are float-stocked in places like Budd Lake and Spruce Run Reservoir and the popular Passaic River. Four-inch whippers are floated in places like Lake Hopatcong, Manasquan and Spruce Run Reservoirs. Two to 3-inch largemouth and smallmouth bass fingerlings are stocked in lakes like Union, Audrey and Splitrock.

The last of the stocking begins when the leaves start dropping from the trees in North Jersey. Ten-inch muskellunge are floated in lakes like Greenwood, Mountain and Mercer. Twelve-inch channel catfish are stocked in dozens of waters throughout the state from ponds as small as Ann Van Middlesworth to New Jersey’s largest water body, Lake Hopatcong, which holds the current

record channel catfish at 33 pounds. The final stocking comes in November when 9-inch lake trout, grown from Story, Wyoming eggs, are float-stocked in Merrill Creek and Monkville reservoirs.

With stocking complete for the season, the fiberglass tanks lie empty, ready to receive 200,000 *Gambusia*, known as mosquitofish, netted from the last few hatchery ponds. They will winter-over indoors and are slated for distribution to county mosquito control commissions the following spring. By now the first snow of the year has hit the ground and staff is working indoors repairing the many seines, nets, screens, plugs and other fish culture equipment that survived another season at the Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery. 

Photos this page: Craig Lemon/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife



▲ Newly hatched walleye fry.

Good Fishing Depends on Clean Water

Supporting water quality protection supports great fishing!

Many of our rivers, lakes and coastal areas are experiencing algae blooms that cover our favorite fishing spots with green slime and cause fish kills and “dead zones” where no aquatic life can survive. The cause is usually nitrogen and phosphorous pollution that comes from farm and lawn fertilizers, septic systems, animal waste and sewage treatment plants. Everyone can do their part for clean water by reducing fertilizer use, preserving plants along shorelines and picking up pet waste. Supporting water quality protection supports great fishing! Learn more at:

epa.gov/nutrientpollution



MEET THE

Mosquito-eaters

By Bob Kent, Administrator,
Office of Mosquito Control Coordination

Outdoor enthusiasts vary in their appreciation for insects. A hiker stops to marvel at an emerging cicada. Campers watch moths at night, drawn to the light of a lantern. An angler “reads” a stream to see what insects have recently hatched in order to choose the right fishing lure. What do all of these outdoors people have in common? They all know the audible hum and the itchy bite of the *mosquito*.

To make that familiar bite less frequent, mosquito control practitioners network on the state, county and local levels to manage these insect populations by safer, yet still effective means. There is a multi-pronged approach, where either the pesky mosquito’s lifecycle must be interrupted or their habitat must be altered—or both.

— Mosquito Control in New Jersey

Organized mosquito control in New Jersey was established around the same time as was the Division of Fish and Wildlife—about 125 years ago. Now, the New Jersey Office of Mosquito Control Coordination is located within the Division of Fish and Wildlife. From the beginning a strong partnership was formed and found common agreement in the methods of managing wetlands, marshes and bodies of water in the state.

A healthy wetland ecosystem, one which may indirectly support a good sport fishery, is a wetland where developing mosquito populations are uncommon. The key reason: healthy wetlands often support native fish which forage on mosquito larvae—the best life cycle stage to target for biological control of these insect pests. Native fish populations such as sunfish, minnows or killifish sometimes can be encouraged to forage in areas where female mosquitoes lay eggs and larvae will soon emerge. In a salt marsh where mosquitoes flourish, canals and ponds are created to invite resident killifish to feast on developing larvae.

Every New Jersey county has a mosquito control program. These vary in size and resources but all address the annual mosquito pest and

disease problems brought to bear by blooming mosquito populations found in supportive breeding habitat.

While the more familiar method of mosquito control—such as the application of pesticides—is still a mainstay of some county programs, wetlands management, public relations, sanitation practices and biological pest control methods are all part of another approach known as Integrated Pest Management or IPM. With IPM, control strategies are based on surveillance and timing of control in consideration of the pest’s life cycle.

— Biological Control Program

Using fish as an effective biological control agent is not new in the arsenal of mosquito control techniques. Managing wetlands to encourage resident fish populations has long been practiced successfully. Aside from habitat management activities, utilizing indigenous fish has no associated breeding, rearing or stocking expenses. However, in areas where mosquitoes develop that are not associated with natural wetlands—such as storm water retention facilities, woodland pools, clogged roadside ditches, abandoned swimming pools, neglected ornamental ponds and more—mosquito control practitioners have relied on commercial fish hatcheries to produce and sell mosquito-eating fish. When considering the fish stocking rate necessary to control mosquitoes in these many breeding sites, such an expense can swiftly consume a mosquito control budget.

— The Program Evolves

Over time, the need to expand the practice of biological control of mosquitoes grew more pressing. In 1991, the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination enlisted the expertise of personnel with the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries. The skilled staff at the Charles O. Hayford Hatchery at Hackettstown were invaluable in the development of the mosquitofish program. With minimal fiscal support, a working set of protocols was


developed to raise and use fish to control mosquito (www.nj.gov/dep/mosquito/biocontr.pdf). In 2011, hatchery personnel stocked the program’s three millionth fish!

The state Mosquito Control Commission endorsed a small \$2,000 budget as seed money to initiate the mosquitofish program. The Commission has since dedicated \$25,000 per year to compensate the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries for program operating expenses. No dedicated Fish and Wildlife funds are used.

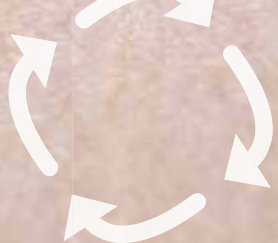
Five species of mosquito-eating fish have been enlisted into the arsenal of mosquito-fighting weapons available to all county control programs. These are bluegill sunfish (*Leopomis macrochirus*), pumpkinseed sunfish (*Leopomis gibbosus*), freshwater killifish (*Fundulus diaphanous*), fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*) and the eastern mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*).

Local mosquito control agencies perform ongoing surveillance of typical mosquito breeding sites. For those locations routinely requiring the application of pesticides, a state biologist will assess the appropriateness of using mosquito-eating fish for control, then select the species best suited to that specific habitat.

For efficiency, the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination accumulates a list of approved control sites. The county mosquito control agency plans their distribution route. Hatchery workers insert a fish transport tank into the bed of the county’s truck, loading the approved quantity of fish for several targeted sites. With a tank of compressed oxygen aerating the transport water, the county has a two-day window to stock these fish into the mosquito habitat well-matched for this bio-control approach—sites formerly requiring repeated applications of pesticides.

New Jersey’s integrated pest management methods of mosquito control have evolved to be more environmentally safe and economically feasible due to the efforts of Fish and Wildlife’s Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries staff, their modern facilities and the millions of mosquito-eating fish they have provided. 

Life Cycle of the Mosquito



Mosquitoes are in the Insecta order called Diptera, comprising the flies. They undergo a complete metamorphosis in their life cycle which includes four distinct stages. Mosquitoes begin as an almost-microscopic egg, laid by the thousands near or on still, shallow water. When flooded, the eggs hatch and the free-swimming larvae will spend a week to ten days in shallow, stagnant or sometimes putrid water while they grow through four phases called instars. The last aquatic stage is the pupa which rests for a day or two near the surface of the water before breaking open its exoskeletal skin to emerge as an adult, flying, blood-seeking (females only) mosquito.



Fish species such as sunfish, pumpkinseed, banded killfish and gambiausia feed on insect larvae and are a large component of county and state mosquito control efforts. All are raised at the Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery.



If you care about:

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

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- Make an impact on outdoor issues
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- ___ \$35 Includes monthly newspaper and \$1 million excess liability insurance covering your sporting activities throughout the U.S. and Canada.
- ___ \$20 Monthly newspaper only

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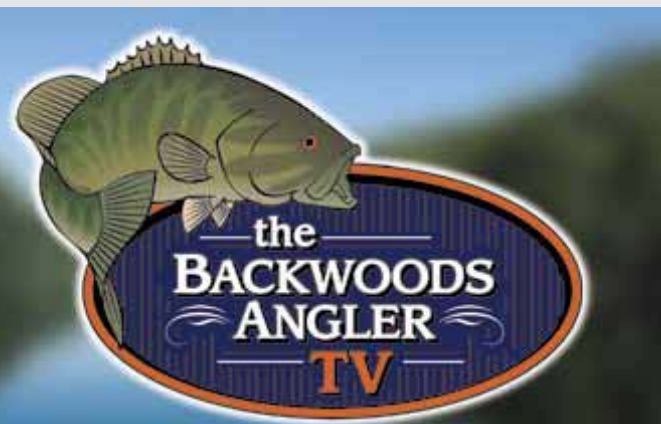
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Andy Shvane

New Jersey's STOCKING PROGRAMS

WARMWATER STOCKING

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

MUSKELLUNGE—8-12"

- Echo Lake Reservoir (268)
- Furnace Lake (106)
- Greenwood Lake (1,000)
- Lake Hopatcong (1,000)
- Little Swartswood Lake (150)
- Manasquan Reservoir (500)
- Manasquan Reservoir (500)
- Mercer Lake (250)
- Monksville Reservoir (250)
- Mountain Lake (250)

NORTHERN PIKE—6"

- Budd Lake (2,863)
- Cranberry Lake (1,794)
- Deal Lake (1,580)
- Farrington Lake (2,715)
- Millstone River (1,000)
- Passaic River (3,150)
- Pompton Lake (2,162)
- Pompton River (2,783)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (5,580)

WALLEYE—2-4"

- Canistear Reservoir (12,515)
- Delaware River (146,496)
- Greenwood Lake (30,960)
- Lake Hopatcong (72,312)
- Monksville Reservoir (18,670)
- Swartswood Lake (19,344)

HYBRID STRIPED BASS—4"

- Lake Hopatcong (23,091)
- Manasquan Reservoir (7,275)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (10,400)

SMALLMOUTH BASS—2"

- Lake Audrey (5,500)
- Manasquan Reservoir (3,868)
- Split Rock Reservoir (2,200)
- Union Lake (5,500)

LARGEMOUTH BASS—2"

- East Creek Pond (1,505)
- Lake of the Lillies (1,200)
- Maskell's Mill Pond (2,114)
- Mirror Lake (5,000)
- Rising Sun Lake (2,000)
- Shaws Mill Pond (1,505)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (3,000)
- Stone Tavern Lake (2,500)
- Union Lake (5,210)
- 11 other smaller water bodies

LAKE TROUT—7"

- Merrill Creek Reservoir (3,250)
- Monksville Reservoir (2,430)

CHANNEL CATFISH—6"

- Twenty waters

CHANNEL CATFISH—12"

- Twenty-six waters

CHANNEL CATFISH—16"

- Twenty-three waters

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

The Hackettstown Hatchery is located in the heart of Hackettstown. It encompasses over 230 acres, consisting of over 65 extensive culture ponds, and a large intensive culture building. The hatchery raises and distributes over 1,500,000 each year, representing 15 species of fish.

TROUT STOCKING

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

The fall of 1982 was a turning point both for the Division of Fish and Wildlife and the anglers who fish New Jersey waters. Trout fishing would never be the same. Over 1.5 million pathogen-free trout eggs arrived at the new Pequest Trout Hatchery. The spring of 1984 saw the first Pequest-raised trout released in the lakes and streams throughout the state. Since then the rearing facility has met and exceeded its production goals in raising brook, brown and rainbow trout. Due to modern technology and a high quality water supply, the hatchery remains one of the nation's leading pathogen-free trout producers.



Tom Pagliaroli

SPRING

- Over 570,000 brook, brown and rainbow trout
- Average size: 10.5 inches and ½ 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 7, 2012
- Stocking continues for seven weeks following Opening Day

FALL

- Second and third 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!

Take a friend fishing!

The memories will last a lifetime.

FREE Fishing Days
— June 16 and 17, 2012 —

No License Needed!
(see page 31)

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Protect New Jersey's Waters

Invasive Fish

Fish identification can be easy for species caught frequently, but tricky for species new to New Jersey waters. An untrained eye can mistake species that look similar.

Bowfin are native species, actually dating back 250 million years and should be released unharmed. However, **snakeheads** are invasive and should be destroyed and submitted to the Division of Fish and Wildlife for verification. Snakeheads have recently been found in the lower Delaware River and some of its tributaries.

BOWFIN—NATIVE



Short anal fin.

▶ SNAKEHEAD—INVASIVE



Long anal fin.

Painting: Susan Trammell
www.SusanTrammell.com

American eels are a diadromous native species, using both fresh and marine waters during their lifecycle. These eels are found in nearly every waterbody in New Jersey. **American brook lamprey** are a harmless native species that serves as an indicator of clean substrate. The **Asian swamp eel** is an invasive species with documented presence in Silver Lake, a 10-acre waterbody located in Gibbsboro.

AMERICAN EEL—NATIVE



Pectoral fins present; no gill slits.

AMERICAN BROOK LAMPREY—NATIVE



No pectoral fins; gill slits present.

▶ ASIAN SWAMP EEL—INVASIVE



No pectoral fins; no gill slits.

Although not a native species, **channel catfish** are stocked by Fish and Wildlife in select locations as a recreational and food species. The **flathead catfish** is considered an invasive species capable of causing ecological damage by out-competing other recreationally important species for food and habitat. Flatheads have been confirmed in the middle section of the Delaware River.

CHANNEL CATFISH—STOCKED



Upper jaw protrudes past lower jaw; tail deeply forked.

▶ FLATHEAD CATFISH—INVASIVE



Lower jaw protrudes past upper jaw; tail not deeply forked.

Water Chestnut



Fan-shaped, strongly toothed leaves. Nut-like fruit with four sharp spines.




Invasive Mussels—Zebra Mussels

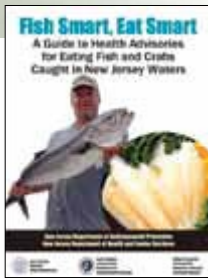
How to Identify Zebra Mussels

- Resembles a clam with a striped "D"-shaped shell, less than two inches long
- Usually grow in clusters
- ONLY freshwater mollusk that can firmly attach itself to solid objects
- If found, keep the mussel(s). Note date and specific location. Immediately, call Dr. Peter Rowe, New Jersey Sea Grant Headquarters, (732) 872-1300 extension 31, or write prowe@njmsc.org.



Keep on Reporting

The most effective way to succeed in containing aquatic invasive species is to report each encounter. Anglers are reminded that possession or release of flathead catfish, snakehead, Asian swamp eel, brook stickleback, oriental weatherfish, green sunfish and warmouth, bighead carp, silver carp and grass carp (diploid) is prohibited. Anglers must destroy these species if encountered and submit specimen(s) to the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries at (908) 236-2118 for north Jersey and at (856) 629-4950 for south Jersey. 



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 statewide, regional and water body-specific warnings for a variety of fish species and fish consumers. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Department of Health and Senior Services have prepared literature and a new Web site to help you make informed choices about which fish to eat and how to reduce your exposure to these harmful chemicals.

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.

For a complete list of state and federal marine fish consumption advisories visit: FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org.

The fish consumption advisories and Fish Smart-Eat Smart Web site are updated periodically and are available online or from the Office of Science at (609) 984-6070 and through the Division of Health and Senior Services at (609) 826-4935. 🐟

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

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▶▶ 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

▶▶ WARNING: WILDLIFE HAZARD

Please properly dispose of all fishing line. Plastic debris can endanger aquatic life and snare propellers. Do NOT litter.

Could this be *your* line?



Shyam Menon

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TRASH IN
THE RIVER.

www.cleanwaterNJ.org

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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.



The new state record grass carp taken by rod and reel weighed 55 pounds, 8 ounces. Jack Demsey, Jr. hooked it in Curlis Lake, Mercer County.

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. **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 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	10	14	2011	Chris Hoffman	Delaware River
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	55	8	2011	Jack Demsey, Jr.	Curlis 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	Pompton Lake
Crappie, White	3	11	2009	William Lewis	Mercer Lake
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

Species	lbs.	oz.	Year	Angler	Where Caught
Perch, Yellow	2	6	1989	Gene Engels	Holiday Lake
Perch, Yellow*	4	4	1865	Charles Abbott	Crosswicks Creek
Pickereel, Chain	9	3	1957	Frank McGovern	Lower Aetna Lake
Pickereel, Redfin	1	13	1982	Gerald Humphrey	Lake Assunpink
Pike, Northern	30	8.5	2009	John Viglione	Pompton Lake
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

Skillful Angler Awards Program


The Skillful Angler Awards Program is designed both to supplement the New Jersey Record Fish Program and to acknowledge 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. 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. 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.

Take time to compose a good quality (and high resolution) photo to submit with your application. The best photo may be selected for publication in this *Digest* next year! Include your e-mail address on back of the photo so we may contact you for a digital copy of your print.

Anglers qualifying for a Skillful Angler award receive a certificate as a testament to their achievement. Anglers may submit applications for larger fish caught even after receiving a certificate.

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 NJFishandWildlife.com for a complete list of current state records.



Rich Bender

This 41-inch, 17-pound tiger musky was caught on a tip-up through the ice on Greenwood Lake by Ken Shimmer, then released.

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

▶▶ 2012 NATIVE FISH ART AND WRITING CONTEST ANNOUNCED!

Students in grades 4–7 can learn about New Jersey’s native fish as they research and write a short story about a year in the life of the native fish of their choice. The story must include biological and ecological information such as the fish’s habits and habitat, food, etc. Then, using their artistic skills, students must draw a scene from the short story. Students might want to use the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife Web site as an online resource to learn about New Jersey’s native fish.



First place winner Owen Korth is a fourth grader from Bordentown.

First and second place winners are awarded for each grade level from 4–7. Winners receive a rod and reel plus a certificate. First place winners also receive a youth membership to Trout Unlimited. All winners are invited to attend a special luncheon and awards ceremony at the Pequest Trout Hatchery on Opening Day of Trout Season, April 7, 2012. Prior to the luncheon, students will have the opportunity to fish in our Education Pond.

The contest is sponsored by the New Jersey chapters of Trout Unlimited.

Entries must be received by **Friday, March 2, 2012.**

For more information, see NJFishandWildlife.com/fishart.htm.



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2012 New Jersey Musky School

**May 19, 2012
Lake Hopatcong**

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all about!

You *don't* want to miss the annual Musky School on Lake Hopatcong offered by Muskies Inc.! Learn how to catch these elusive fish. This course offers informative tips and techniques to help any musky angler—beginner to experienced angler—catch more muskies.

Learn from our seasoned veteran anglers. In the morning, classroom-style sessions will orient anglers on locations to fish, forage base, lure presentations, fishing tactics and more. Later in the day, participants will be on the water in a fully-equipped boat to pursue muskies with a personal instructor. This six-hour course includes a shore lunch. This is a catch and release event.

At Musky School, you will learn:

- Seasonal musky patterns and lure presentations
- Proper fishing gear selection – rods, reels, leaders and line
- How to land, handle and properly release musky



**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.

Fee: \$300

Contact Kevin via e-mail at johnsonke@optonline.net

Or by phone (201) 563-2554

“75 years of success, a partnership for America’s fish and wildlife”

On September 2, 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (now the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act). This Act fostered unprecedented partnerships between federal and state fish and wildlife agencies, the sporting arms industry, conservation groups, and sportsmen to benefit wildlife—and has been key to implementing the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. In 1950, the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (now the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act) was passed. Together, these programs have contributed more than \$10 billion to fish and wildlife conservation—more than any other single conservation effort in the United States.

In 2012, we will proudly observe 75 years of the WSFR program and the success of the partnerships that have made this program what it is today. We are planning a year-long national anniversary program that will be outcome-oriented, inclusive and memorable. We hope the anniversary program will act as a catalyst to make the WSFR program even stronger in the future.

For more information, or to get involved, please contact Christina Zarrella, USFWS, 703-862-5761 or Christina_zarrella@fws.gov



▶▶ “HOOK A WINNER” PROGRAM

Once again this year, the Division of Fish and Wildlife will be jaw-tagging more than 1,000 brook trout for release in New Jersey waters.

If you are a lucky angler who lands one of these fish, send your name, address, fish tag number and location of catch to:

Pequest Trout Hatchery
605 Pequest Road
Oxford, NJ 07863
Attn: Hook a Winner Program

In recognition of your catch, a certificate and award patch will be mailed.



Tom Pagliaroli

DEP PUBLICATIONS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO ANGLERS

NJFishandWildlife.com

Item	Cost	Web site	Source
Accessible Fishing Sites For People With Disabilities	Free	Yes	1
Commercial (fee-based) Fishing Preserves in NJ	Free	Yes	1
Delaware River Boat Access	Free	Yes	1
Disabled Veterans—Free Fishing License application	Free	Yes	1
Field Guide to Dragonflies and Damselflies of NJ—Book	\$39	No	4
Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians of NJ—Book	\$18	No	4
Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians of NJ—CD	\$12	No	4
Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians of NJ—Book/CD Set	\$25	No	4
Great Fishing Close to Home— New! (north, central, south) (specify which region when requesting)	Free	No	1
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> (Enlarged photocopy of this <i>Digest</i>)	Free	No	1
Wildlife Management Area Maps (specify name of WMA)	Free	Yes	1

Sources:

Please write item requested on the **outside** of the envelope.

1. NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife, 605 Pequest Road, Oxford, NJ 07863, (908) 637-4125
2. NJ Geological Survey, Maps & Publications, Sales Office, MC401-07A, P.O. Box 402, Trenton, NJ 08625-0402, (609) 777-1038
3. DEP, Div. Parks & Forestry, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420, (800) 843-6420 (Specify name of park.)
4. NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
Make check payable to Conserve Wildlife Foundation.

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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 List!

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:
NJFishandWildlife.com/lstsub.htm

▶▶ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO GET KIDS HOOKED ON FISHING!



Jamie Darrow/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife needs volunteers at the Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center to teach youths about fishing.

Teaching experience is helpful—but not required—to become a fishing education instructor. However, enthusiasm, energy and the desire to teach children proper fishing techniques and ethics is a must!

Classes run Monday through Friday from April through October. Interested applicants must become a Wildlife Conservation Corps (WCC) volunteer. Download a WCC application from our Web site at: NJFishandWildlife.com/wcchome.htm.

Share the pleasures of fishing and pass on a conservation ethic to the next generation. Become a fishing education instructor today!

For more information on Fish and Wildlife's fishing education programs, call Jessica Griglak at (908) 637-4125, or e-mail Jessica.Griglak@dep.state.nj.us.

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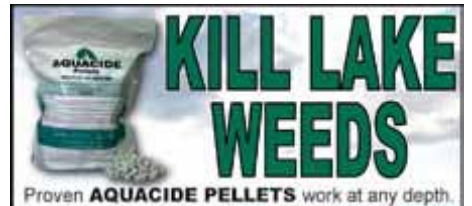
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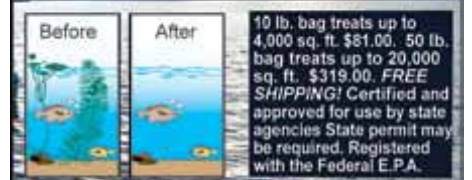
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New Jersey Freshwater Fishing Digest



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26 Route 173 W, Hampton, NJ 08827	
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Central Region Office	
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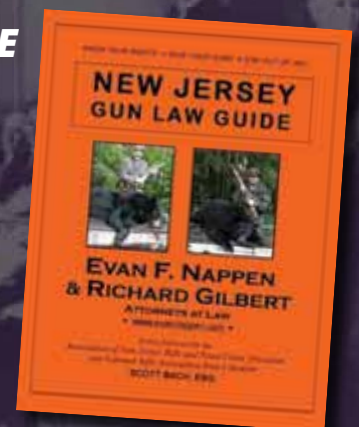
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