

Regulations in red are new this year.

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. **See page 7 for information on the new, money-saving Buddy Fishing License, available only at license agents.**
- 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. Non-residents 70 and over must purchase a 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 website 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 website 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 fishing license.

New Jersey National Guard Licenses

Only New Jersey National Guard personnel in good standing are entitled to free sporting licenses, permits and stamps. These privileges are not available using Fish and Wildlife's website. However, the NJ Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs can issue fishing licenses through their DMAVA website at www.nj.gov/military/iasd/fishing.html. For all other free sporting licenses, call (609) 530-6866, e-mail or write to: MSG (Ret.) Robert Greco, NJ DMAVA, 101 Eggert Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648.

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 NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, Attn: Disabled Veteran Licensing, MC 501-03, PO Box 420 Trenton, NJ 08625-0420.

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. For questions call (609) 984-6213.

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) 292-2965 for an application.

Summary of General Fishing Regulations

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

- Fish may be taken only in the manner known as angling with handline or with rod and line, or as otherwise allowed by law.
- When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, handlines or combination thereof may be used (except on the Delaware River. There is no rod limit when fishing from a boat except for the Delaware River.) **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 31 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 and grass), eels, flathead catfish, American shad (Delaware River only), gizzard shad, snakeheads and suckers or hybrids of these species—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. Crossbows may be used when bowfishing except for Greenwood Lake. Crossbows must have a stock length of at least 25 inches, a minimum draw pull weight of 75 pounds and a working safety. Crossbows must be uncocked during transport or when not actively fishing. They may not be permanently mounted. **Anglers should be aware that some municipalities have banned the discharge of bow and arrow, tethered arrow or not. As such, anglers are strongly urged to check with**

the waterbody owner and/or individual municipality prior to engaging in bowfishing. See regulations for the Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, pages 28-30.

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 may be used are:

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

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

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 (see page 44) 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 (609) 259-6964 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. Common carp are an invasive species but are NOT classified as a potentially dangerous fish and do not have to be destroyed.

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.

Water Supply Reservoirs Open To Fishing By Permit Only

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

	Waterbody	County	Type of Fishing	Fee	Permit Source
Newark-Pequanock Watershed Reservoirs	Echo Lake	Passaic	Boat & Shoreline	Yes	Newark Watershed reservoir permits available in person only at these locations: City of Newark 223 Echo Lake Road, Newfoundland, NJ 07435 (973) 697-1724 Newark City Hall 920 Broad St., Newark 07102 (973) 733-8008
	Clinton Reservoir				
	Oak Ridge Reservoir	Morris			
	Canistear Reservoir	Sussex			
	Oradell Reservoir	Bergen	Shoreline only	Yes	United Water Company 461 From Rd. Paramus, NJ 07652 (201) 767-6746
	Woodcliff Lake				
	Lake Tappan Reservoir Lake Deforest				


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 Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries (north/central) 908-236-2118; (south) 609-259-6964. It is **ILLEGAL** to stock carp or koi into any such waters. No trout may be stocked within the PEQUEST RIVER DRAINAGE except by the Pequest Trout Hatchery. See *Highlights of Regulation Changes* page 6 and the article on Fish Stocking Permits beginning on page 8.

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 Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries (north/central) 908-236-2118; (south) 609-259-6964 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. 



Regulations in red are new this year.

2018 General Trout Fishing Information

- Opening day of trout season: Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 8 a.m.
- To fish for trout or salmon, a valid 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.
- **All Brook Trout caught within the "Brook Trout Conservation Zone" must be immediately released unharmed. The zone consists of all waters within the northwest region of the state, where most remaining wild Brook Trout populations occur. The Conservation Zone includes all waters west of I-287 and north of Rt 202, extending to, but not including the Delaware River. See map on page 11.**
- 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: Lake Hopatcong, Mountain Lake, Lake Shenandoah, Lawrence Brook (section from Davidson's Mill Rd. to Farrington Lake dam), Prospertown Lake and Swartwood 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 21-23) 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, 2018. 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 23.
- **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).**
- 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 may be fished on the day they are stocked.

Note: All waters listed are stocked with trout pre-season (three-week period preceding opening day) except Round Valley and Merrill Creek reservoirs. The number in parentheses shows the anticipated number of in-season stockings (April 9 through May 25). A zero indicates the water will be stocked only during pre-season. For weekly updates on stocking details, call the **Trout Hotline's recorded message at (609) 633-6765.** (Spring stocking: April-May; Fall stocking: October; Winter stocking: November.) Or visit our website at NJFishandWildlife.com where you will also find directions to public-access portions of trout-stocked waters.

Atlantic County

Birch Grove Park Ponds—Northfield (3)
Hammonton Lake—Town of Hammonton (3)
Heritage Pond—Absecon (3)

Bergen County

Dahnert's Lake—Garfield (4)
Hackensack River—Lake Tappan to Harriot Ave., Harrington Park Borough (4)
Hohokus Brook—Parsons Pond Rd., Franklin Lakes Borough to Saddle River (4)
Indian Lake—Little Ferry Borough (4)
Mill Pond (aka Silver Lake)—Park Ridge Borough (3)
Pascack Brook—Woodcliff Lake dam to Emerson Rd., Harrington Park Borough (4)
Potash Lake—Oakland (3)

Saddle River—Lake St. to West Century Rd., Fair Lawn (5)
Tenakill Brook—Closter Borough, entire length (3)
Whites Pond—Waldwick Borough (4)

Burlington County

Crystal Lake—Willingboro Twp. (4)
Laurel Pond—Mt. Laurel Twp. (3)
Pemberton Lake—Pemberton Twp. (3)
Rancocas Creek, Southwest Br.—Mill St. Park to Rt. 70, Medford Twp. (4)
Sylvan Lake—Burlington Twp. (3)

Camden County

Gloucester City Pond—Gloucester (4)
Grenloch Lake (see Gloucester County)
Haddon Lake—Audubon Borough (0)
Oak Pond—Sicklerville, Winslow Twp. (3)
Rowands Lake—Clementon Borough (3)

Cape May County

Ponderlodge Pond—Villas, Lower Twp. (4)
Tuckahoe Lake—Tuckahoe, Upper Twp. (4)

Cumberland County

Cohansey River—Dam at Seeleys Pond to powerline above Sunset Lake, Upper Deerfield Twp. (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—Down/Lawrence Twps. (3)
South Vineland Park Pond—Vineland (3)

Essex County

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

Gloucester County

Greenwich Lake—Greenwich Twp. (3)
Grenloch Lake—Washington Twp. (3)
Harrisonville Lake—Pilesgrove/South Harrison Twps. (3)
Iona Lake—Franklin Twp. (3)
Swedesboro Lake (aka Narraticon Lake)—Borough of Swedesboro (3)
Westville Lake—Westville (0)

Hudson County

North Hudson Park Lake—(aka JJ Braddock Park Lake), North Bergen Twp. (4)
West Hudson County Park Pond—Harrison (0)

Hunterdon County

Alexauken Creek—West Amwell Twp., entire length (2)
Amwell Lake—East Amwell Twp. (3)
Capoolong Creek (aka Cakepoulin Creek)—Franklin Twp., entire length (5)
Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal—source to Wilburtha Rd., Ewing Twp. (Mercer) (6)
Hakihokake Creek—Little York-Mount Pleasant Rd., Little York, Alexandria Twp. to Delaware River (2)
Lockatong Creek—Route 12, Kingwood Twp. to Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal (5)
Mannys Pond—Union Twp. (3)
Mountain Farm Pond—Lebanon Twp. (3)
Mulhockaway Creek—Pattensburg, source to Spruce Run Reservoir, Clinton/Union Twps. (5)
Neshanic River—confluence of First and Second Neshanic Rivers to Rt. 514, Raritan Twp. (2)
Nishisakawick Creek—Frenchtown Alexandria Twp., entire length (2)
Rockaway Creek—Readington Twp., entire length (4)
Round Valley Reservoir—Clinton Twp. (1)
Sidney Brook—Franklin/Union Twps., entire length (1)
Spruce Run—Glen Gardner Borough/Lebanon Twp., entire length (5)
Stony Brook—(See Mercer Co.)

**OPENING DAY
of TROUT SEASON**

▶ April 7, 2018 April 6, 2019

Wickecheoke Creek—Covered Bridge, Rt. 604, Sergeantsville to Delaware River (2)

Mercer County

Assunpink Creek—Assunpink Site 5 dam upstream of Rt. 130 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—(See Hunterdon Co.) (6)
 Rosedale Lake—Hopewell Twp. (3)
 Stony Brook—**Hopewell Twp., entire length** (4)

Middlesex County

Hook's Creek Lake—Cheesequake State Park, Old Bridge Twp. (3)
 Ireland Brook—500 ft. upstream of Riva Ave to Farrington Lake, North Brunswick Twp. (2)
 Lake Papaiani—Edison Twp. (0)
 Lawrence Brook—Dam at Davidson's Mill Pond to 2nd RR bridge (Raritan Railroad) below Main St., Milltown Borough, excluding Farrington Lake from Church Lane to Farrington Dam (4)
 Manalapan Lake—Monroe Twp. (3)
 Roosevelt Park Pond—Edison Twp. (3)

Monmouth County

Echo Lake—Howell Twp. (3)
 Englishtown Mill Pond (aka Weamaconk Lake)—Englishtown Borough (3)
 Franklin Lake—West Long Branch Borough (3)
 Garvey's Pond—Middletown Twp. (3)
 Hockhockson Brook—**Rt. 18, Colts Neck Twp.** to Garden State Parkway bridge (northbound), Tinton Falls Borough (5)
 Holmdel Park Pond—Holmdel Twp. (3)
 Mac's Pond—Manasquan Borough (0)
 Mingamahone Brook—**Birdsall Rd.** to Manasquan River, Howell Twp. (5)
 Mohawk Pond—Red Bank Borough (4)
 Shark River—Rt. 33, Wall Twp., to Remsen Mill Rd., Neptune/Wall Twp. (5)
 Spring Lake—Spring Lake Borough (3)
 Topanemus Lake—Freehold Twp. (3)
 Yellow Brook—Heyers Mill Rd. to Muhlenbrink Rd., Colts Neck Twp. (2)

Morris County

Beaver Brook—Rockaway Twp./Borough, entire length (3)
Black River—Route 206 Chester, to the posted Black River Fish and Game club property at the lower end of Hacklebarney State Park (6)
 Burnham Park Ponds (Upper and Lower)—Town of Morristown (4)
 Drakes Brook—Mt. Olive/Roxbury Twps., entire length (3)
 Hibernia Brook—Rockaway Twp., entire length (5)
 India Brook—Mountainside Ave. to Rt. 24, Mendham Borough (5)
 Lake Hopatcong—Hopatcong/Jefferson/Mt. Arlington/Roxbury (3)
 Lake Musconetcong—Netcong Borough/Roxbury Twp./Stanhope Borough (3)
 Mt. Hope Pond—Rockaway Twp. (3)

Passaic River—Black Brook confluence to Rt. 24, Chatham Borough (4)
 Pequannock River—(see Passaic Co.)
 Pompton River—(see Passaic Co.)
 Russia Brook—Ridge Rd. to Lake Swannanoa, Jefferson Twp. (2)
 Speedwell Lake—Town of Morristown (4)
 Whippany River—Tingley Rd., Morris Twp. to Ridgedale Ave., Town of Morristown (2)

Ocean County

Lake Shenandoah—Ocean Co. Park, Lakewood Twp. (3)
 Pohatcong Lake—Borough of Tuckerton (4)
 Prospertown Lake—Jackson Twp. (3)

Passaic County

Barbour Pond—Woodland Park Borough (3)
 Clinton Reservoir—Newark Watershed, West Milford Twp. (3)
 Green Turtle Lake—Long Pond Ironworks State Park, West Milford Twp. (3)
 Oldham Pond—North Haledon Borough (3)
 Pequannock River—Rt. 23, Smith Mills to Paterson-Hamburg Turnpike, Pompton Lakes/Riverdale Boroughs (6)
 Pompton River—**confluence with Ramapo River to NY Susquehanna R.R. bridge, Wayne Twp.** (4)
Ramapo River—Pompton Lake dam to confluence with Pompton River
 Ringwood Brook—State line to Sally's Pond, Ringwood State Park, Ringwood Borough (5)
 Sheppard Lake—Ringwood State Park, Ringwood Borough (3)

Salem County

Harrisonville Lake—Pilesgrove/South Harrison Twps. (3)
 Maurice River—Willow Grove Lake dam to Sherman Ave., Vineland (4)
 Schadler's Sand Wash Pond—Carneys Point Twp. (3)

Somerset County

Lamington River—Rt. 523 (Lamington Rd.) Bedminster Twp. to Raritan River N. Br. (4)
 Middle Brook, E/Br.—Bridgewater/Warren Twps., entire length (2)
 Passaic River—(See Morris Co.)
 Peapack Brook—Peapack-Gladstone Borough, entire length (5)
 Raritan River—confluence of Raritan River N. Br. and S. Br. to Rt. 206, Hillsborough Twp./Somerville Borough (4)
 Rock Brook—Hillsborough/Montgomery Twps., entire length (1)
 Spooky Brook Park Pond—Franklin Twp. (0)

Sussex County


Alm's House Pond—Frankford Twp. (3)
 Andover Junction Brook—Andover Borough, entire length (2)
 Big Flat Brook, Upper—Sawmill Pond, High Point State Park, Montague Twp. to 100 ft. above Crigger Rd., Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. (4)
 Blue Mountain Lake—Delaware Water Gap Nat'l Recreation Area, Walpack Twp. (3)
 Clove Brook—**source to Clove Acres Lake, Wantage Twp.** (5)

Culver's Creek—Frankford Twp., entire length (5)
 Dry Brook—Branchville, Borough/Frankford Twp., entire length (3)
 Franklin Pond Creek—Hamburg Mtn. WMA, Hardyston Twp./Franklin Borough, entire length (5)
 Glenwood Brook—Glenwood Lake dam to state line (2)
 Lake Aeroflex—Andover Borough (3)
 Lake Hopatcong—Hopatcong/Mt. Arlington Boroughs, Jefferson/Roxbury Twps. (3)
 Lake Musconetcong—Netcong/Stanhope Boroughs/Roxbury Twp. (3)
 Lake Ocquittunk—Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. (3)
 Little Flat Brook—Sandyston Twp., entire length (5)
 Little Swartswood Lake—Hampton Twp. (3)
 Lubbers Run—Byram Twp., entire length (5)
 Neldon Brook—Stillwater Twp., entire length (2)
 Papakating Creek—**George Hill Rd., Frankford Twp.** to Rt. 565, Lewisburg (2)
 Papakating Creek, W/Br.—Wantage Twp., entire length (2)
 Pond Brook—Stillwater Twp., entire length (5)
 Sawmill Pond—High Point State Park, Montague Twp. (3)
 Silver Lake—Hamburg Mountain WMA, Hardyston Twp. (0)
 Stony Lake—Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. (3)
 Swartswood Lake—Stillwater Twp. (3)
Wallkill River—Lake Mohawk Dam to Route 23, Hardyston Twp. (4-5)
 Wawayanda Creek—Vernon Twp., entire length (5)
 Wawayanda Lake—Vernon Twp. (3)

Union County

Green Brook—Rt. 527, Berkeley Heights Twp. to Rt. 22, Scotch Plains Twp. (2)
 Lower Echo Lake—Mountainside Borough (3)
 Milton Lake—Rahway (4)
 Nomahegan Park Lake—Cranford Twp. (0)
 Passaic River—(See Morris Co.)
 Rahway River—I-78 bridge, Springfield to **Lawrence St. (Route 514)**, Rahway (4)
 Seeleys Pond—Berkeley Heights Twp. (3)
 Warinanco Park Lake—Roselle Borough (0)

Warren County

Beaver Brook—Silver Lake Dam to Pequest River, White Twp. (4)
 Blair Creek—**Bass Lake dam, Hardwick Twp.** to Blair Lake, Blairstown Twp. (2)
 Blair Lake—Blairstown Twp. (3)
 Brookaloo Swamp—Hope Twp., entire length (2)
 Buckhorn Creek—Harmony Twp., entire length (2)
 Columbia Lake—Knowlton Twp. (3)
 Furnace Brook—Oxford Twp., entire length (2)
 Furnace Lake—Oxford Twp. (3)
 Honey Run—Knowlton-Hope township line to Beaver Brook, Hope Twp. (2)
 Jacksonburg Creek—Blairstown Twp., entire length (2)
 Lopatcong Creek—Rt. 519 Harmony Twp., to South Main St., Phillipsburg (5)
 Merrill Creek Reservoir—Harmony Twp. (1)
 Mountain Lake—Liberty Twp. (0)
 Pohatcong Creek—source to Rt. 31, Washington Twp. (2)
 Pophandusing Creek—**White Twp., entire length** (2)
 White Lake—Hardwick Twp. (3) 

Regulations in *red* are new this year.

General Trout Fishing Regulations

BROOK, BROWN & RAINBOW TROUT (and their hybrids and strains)

***ALL BROOK TROUT CAUGHT WITHIN THE BROOK TROUT CONSERVATION ZONE MUST BE IMMEDIATELY RELEASED UNHARMED.**
The Conservation Zone includes all waters west of I-287 and north of Rt 202, extending to, but not including the Delaware River.

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 (Catch and Release Areas, Year-Round and Seasonal Trout Conservation Areas, Trophy and Holdover Trout Lakes and Wild Trout Streams). 3. On lakes Hopatcong, Mountain, Prospertown, Shenandoah, Swartswood and the section of Lawrence Brook from Davidson's Mill Road bridge to the Church Lane bridge, 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 28–30.
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*	

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

***All Brook Trout caught within the BROOK TROUT CONSERVATION ZONE must be released.** 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 Stocking Hotline: (609) 633-6765.**

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 Allenwood-Lakewood Rd. (Rt. 21), Wall Twp.
	Metedeconk River, N/Br.	Ocean	Aldrich Rd. to Ridge Ave., Howell/Lakewood Twps.
	Metedeconk River, S/Br.	Ocean	Bennetts Mill dam to twin wooden foot bridge, opposite Lake Park Blvd. on South Lake Dr., Lakewood Twp.
	Rockaway River**	Morris	Longwood Lake dam, Jefferson Twp. to Boonton Reservoir (aka Jersey City Res.), Boonton
	Toms River	Ocean	Rt. 528, Jackson Twp., to confluence with Maple Root Branch, and Rt. 70 to Rt. 571, Toms River/Manchester Twps. (Exception: the section regulated as a Year Round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)
TUESDAYS April 10, 17, 24 May 1, 8, 15, 22	Pohatcong Creek**	Warren	Rt. 31, Washington Twp. to Delaware River
	Raritan River, S/Br.**	Morris, Somerset, Hunterdon	Mill dam located 200 feet upstream from Schooleys Mountain Rd. (Rt. 517), Long Valley to junction with Raritan River N. Br. (Exception: the section regulated as Catch and Release.)
WEDNESDAYS April 11, 18, 25 May 2, 9, 16, 23	Raritan River, N/Br.**	Somerset	Peapack Rd. bridge in Far Hills Borough/Bedminster Twp. to junction with Raritan River S. Br.
THURSDAYS April 12, 19, 26 May 3, 10, 17, 24	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 Lake
	Ramapo River**	Bergen	State line to Pompton Lake, Oakland (excluding Potash Lake)
FRIDAYS April 13, 20, 27 May 4, 11, 18, 25	Big Flat/Flat Brook**	Sussex	100 ft. above Crigger Rd., Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. to Delaware River (Exception: the section regulated as Catch and Release.)
	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	Pequest Rd., Green Twp. to Delaware River (Exception: the section regulated as a Seasonal Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)
	Wanaque River**	Passaic	Greenwood Lake dam, West Milford, Twp. to Wanaque Reservoir dam, Wanaque Borough and from Wanaque Ave., Pompton Lakes Borough to Pequannock River, excluding the Wanaque and Monksville reservoirs.

** These streams are wholly or partially located within the Brook Trout Conservation Zone.

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

Regulations in *red* are new this year.

Trout-Stocked Streams — Wild Brown Trout Managed

***ALL BROOK TROUT CAUGHT WITHIN BROOK TROUT CONSERVATION ZONE MUST BE IMMEDIATELY RELEASED UNHARMED.**

Waterbody	Season	Species	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Hakihohake Creek** - Little York-Mount Pleasant Rd., Little York Alexandria Twp. to Delaware R.	Jan. 1–March 18	Rainbow and Brook Trout*	9 inches	4 combined Only 2 of which may be Brown Trout
		Brown Trout	12 inches	
Lopatcong Creek** - Rt. 519, Harmony Twp., Warren to Delaware R.	March 19–April 7 at 8 a.m.	—	Fishing prohibited	
Pophandusing Creek** - White Twp., entire length				
Raritan River S. Br.** - Mill dam located 200 feet above Schooley's Mountain Rd. (Rt 517), Long Valley (Hunterdon), downstream to Lake Solitude dam, excluding Ken Lockwood Gorge (Catch and Release Only)	April 7 at 8 a.m.–May 31	Rainbow and Brook Trout*	9 inches	6 combined Only 2 of which may be Brown Trout
		Brown Trout	12 inches	
Saddle River - Lake Street, Upper Saddle River Twp., to West Century Rd., Fairlawn/Paramus Boroughs	June 1–Dec. 31	Rainbow and Brook Trout*	9 inches	4 combined Only 2 of which may be Brown Trout
		Brown Trout	12 inches	

** These streams are wholly or partially located within the Brook Trout Conservation Zone.

Trout Conservation Areas (TCAs)

***ALL BROOK TROUT CAUGHT WITHIN BROOK TROUT CONSERVATION ZONE MUST BE IMMEDIATELY RELEASED UNHARMED.**

YEAR ROUND TCAs				
Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Restrictions (in effect year round)	
Jan. 1–March 18	15 inches	1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Only artificial lures may be used. Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. Fishing is allowed 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.	
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Only artificial lures may be used. Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. Pequest River—fishing is not permitted during the first six in-season stocking closure dates. (See Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring Stocking Dates, 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.	

** These streams are wholly or partially located within the Brook Trout Conservation Zone.

Regulations in *red* are new this year.

Catch and Release Areas

Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Restrictions
Jan. 1–Dec. 31		Catch and release all trout	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> All trout must be released immediately and unharmed. A person may not have any trout in their possession. Only artificial lures and flies may be used. Barbless hooks only, with no more than a total of three hook points. Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. Fishing is allowed during the spring in-season stocking closures which apply to the rivers.
Catch and Release Waterbody (County)		Driving Directions *	
Big Flat / Flat Brook (Sussex) Rt. 206 bridge downstream to the Roy Bridge on Mountain Rd., a distance of 4.2 miles, including the portion known as the Blewett Tract.		Upper boundary: Rt. 206 bridge, approx. 1.6 miles north of entrance to Stokes State Forest (Coursen Road). Lower boundary: Rt. 206 north, app. 1 mile past Stokes State Forest entrance, turn left on Rt. 560. At Layton bear left on Bevans Rd. (Rt. 640) towards Walpack. Continue south 3.4 miles (NPS Rd 615), left onto Fish and Wildlife Rd. to Roy Bridge.	
Raritan S. Br.—Ken Lockwood Gorge (Hunterdon) Section of S. Br. within the Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area (approx. 2.2 miles).		Ken Lockwood Gorge — Road in gorge is closed to through traffic. Route 31 to Rt. 513. Upper boundary: Turn right at Hoffman's Crossing Rd., take first right after bridge. Lower boundary: Turn right onto Silverthorne-Cokesbury Rd., turn left after crossing river. Park only in designated areas.	

Wild Trout Streams

NATIVE BROOK TROUT STREAMS (Brook Trout Dominant)

Species	Minimum Size	Season	Daily Limit	Gear
Brook Trout	Catch & Release	April 7 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15 Catch and Release at all other times	2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing allowed year-round Artificials only, with no more than 3 hook points in total, all barbless Possession or use of bait, or synthetic bait with bait scent prohibited
Rainbow Trout	No min. size			
Brown Trout	No min. size			

- Beatty's Brook** (Lebanon Twp.)
- Bear Swamp Brook** (Mahwah Twp.)
- Hickory Run** (Lebanon Twp.)
- Lake Ames Tributary** (Picatinny Arsenal boundary to Lake Ames, Rockaway Twp.)
- Primrose Brook** (Harding Twp.)
- Raritan River S. Br.** (Budd Lake dam to dam approx. 400 feet above Flanders-Drakestown Rd., Mt Olive Twp.)
- Rinehart Brook** (Hacklebarney State Park, Chester Twp.)
- Rocky Run** (Lebanon Twp.)
- Stephensburg Brook** (Washington Twp.)
- Stony Brook** (Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp.)
- Trout Brook** (Hacklebarney State Park, Chester Twp.)

WILD TROUT STREAMS (Multiple wild trout species present)

Species	Minimum Size	Season	Daily Limit	Gear
Brook Trout	Catch & Release in Zone	April 7 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15 Catch and Release at all other times	2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing allowed year-round Artificials only, with no more than 3 hook points in total, all barbless Possession or use of bait, or synthetic bait with bait scent prohibited
Rainbow Trout	9"			
Brown Trout	9"			

- Brass Castle Creek** (Washington Twp.)
- Dismal Brook** (Mendham Twp.)
- Dunfield Creek** (Worthington State Forest)
- Flanders Brook** (Mt. Olive Twp.)
- India Brook** (source to Mountainside Rd., Mendham Twp.)
- Indian Grove Brook** (Bernardsville Twp.)
- Ledgewood Brook** (Roxbury Twp.)
- Lomerson Brook** (also known as Herzog Brook) (Tewksbury Twp.)
- Merrill Creek** (Merrill Creek Reservoir Dam to Pohatcong Ck., Stewartsville)
- Raritan River S. Br.** [dam approx. 400 feet above Flanders-Drakestown Rd. to dam 200 ft above Schooleys Mtn. Rd. (Rt. 517), Long Valley]
- Stony Brook** (Washington Twp. Morris)
- Teetertown Brook** (Washington Twp./Lebanon Twp.)
- Turkey Brook** (Mt. Olive Twp.)
- Van Campens Brook** (source to upper waterfall in Van Campens Glen, Del. Water Gap Nat. Rec. Area)
- West Brook** (source downstream to Windbeam Club property, Ringwood Twp.)
- Whippany River** (source to Tingley Rd., Mendham Twp.)
- Willoughby Brook** (also known as Buffalo Hollow Bk.) (Lebanon Twp.)

WILD BROWN TROUT ENHANCEMENT STREAMS (Brown Trout dominant, other wild trout species may be present)

Species	Minimum Size	Season	Daily Limit	Gear
Brook Trout	Catch & Release in Zone*	April 7 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15 Catch and Release at all other times	2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing allowed year-round Artificials only, with no more than 3 hook points in total, all barbless Possession or use of bait, or synthetic bait with bait scent prohibited
Rainbow Trout	9"			
Brown Trout	12"			

- Beaver Brook** (Town of Clinton/Clinton Twp.)
- Burnett Brook** (Chester/Mendham Twp.)
- Cold Brook** (Tewksbury Twp.)
- Hakihokake Creek** (also known as Little York Bk. — source to Little York-Mount Pleasant Rd, Little York)
- Jackson Brook** (source to Hedden Park Lake Mine Hill Twp.)
- Mill Brook** (Randolph Twp.)
- Passaic River** (source to Rt. 202, Bernardsville Twp.)
- Pequanock River** (Oak Ridge Rd. (Newark Watershed) to railroad bridge immediately upstream of Charlottesville)
- Res. and from Rt. 23 at Smoke Rise to the Rt. 23 at Smith Mills, Kinnelon Twp.)
- Rockaway Creek N. Br.** (Tewksbury Twp.)
- Saddle River*** (state line to Lake St., Upper Saddle River Borough)
- Spring Mills Brook** (Holland Twp.)
- Van Campens Brook** (upper waterfall in Van Campens Glen, located approx. 0.8 miles upstream of Old Mine Road, to Delaware River, Del. Water Gap Nat. Rec. Area)
- Wanaque River** (Wanaque Reservoir dam downstream to Wanaque Ave., Pompton Lakes Borough)

* Saddle River is outside the Brook Trout Conservation Zone therefore a 9 inch limit for brook trout applies.

Trout Lakes

TROPHY TROUT LAKES				
Waterbody (County)	Species	Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Merrill Creek Reservoir (Warren)	Brown & Rainbow Trout (and their hybrids) and Landlocked Atlantic Salmon	Open year round	15 inches	2 combined
		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) and Landlocked Atlantic Salmon	Open year round	15 inches	2 combined
		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)	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
Tilcon Lake* (Morris)	Landlocked Atlantic Salmon	Jan. 1–March 18	12 inches	2
White Lake (Warren)		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

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Fish Identification

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Chain Pickerel



Redfin Pickerel



Walleye



White Perch



Yellow Perch



Striped Bass



Hybrid Striped Bass



White Sucker



Common Carp

Illustrations: Duane Raver/USFWS



Largemouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass



Redbreast Sunfish



Pumpkinseed Sunfish



Bluegill Sunfish



White Crappie



Black Crappie



Brown Bullhead

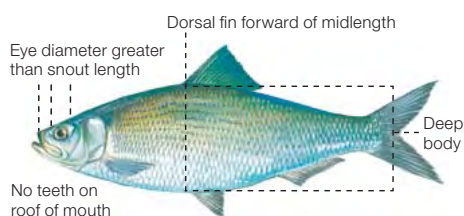


Channel Catfish

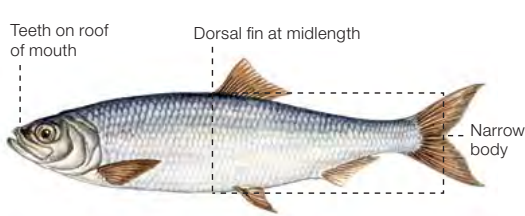


White Catfish

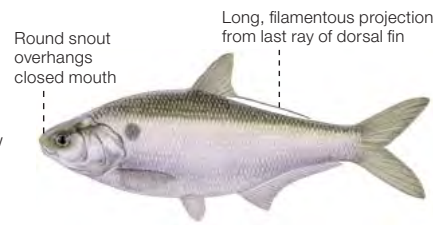
Herring



Alewife



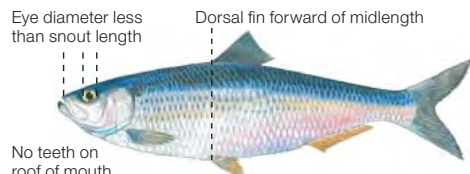
Atlantic Herring



Gizzard Shad



American Shad



Blueback Herring











Hickory Shad

Alewife, American Shad, Blueback Herring and Hickory Shad illustrations ©Duane Raver; Atlantic Herring illustration ©Victor Young/NH. Fish and Game Department; Gizzard Shad illustration courtesy of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department ©2012.

Fishing Regulations

SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS










Certain waters are closed to fishing for all species from March 19 to April 7, 2018 at 8 a.m. because of trout stocking. Refer to pages 18–20 for complete lists and exceptions. Regulations in red are new this year. For Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, see regulations on pages 28–30.

	LOCATION	SEASON	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
LARGEMOUTH & SMALLMOUTH BASS				
	Statewide (exceptions below)	Jan. 1–April 14 April 15–June 15 Catch & Release only (all waters) June 16–Dec. 31	12 inches	5 combined
Largemouth Bass	Lunker Bass Lakes: Alloway, Assunpink, Parvin and Delaware lakes; Splitrock Reservoir		15 inches	3 combined
	Conservation Regulations: Ryker Lake		15 inches	2 combined
Smallmouth Bass				
NORTHERN PIKE, TIGER MUSKY, MUSKELLUNGE				
	Statewide	Open year round March 20–May 20 are Catch & Release only for Echo Lake Reservoir, Mercer Lake, Mountain Lake, Monksville Reservoir	Northern Pike: 24 inches	2
Northern Pike	Statewide (exceptions below)		Tiger Musky & Muskellunge: 40 inches	1 combined
	Trophy Musky Waters: Echo Lake Reservoir, Lake Hopatcong & Monksville Reservoir		Tiger Musky & Muskellunge: 44 inches	
Muskellunge				
CHAIN PICKEREL AND REDFIN PICKEREL				
	Statewide	Open year round	15 inches	5 combined
Chain Pickerel				
WALLEYE				
	Statewide	Jan. 1–Feb. 28 March 1–April 30 Catch & Release only May 1–Dec. 31	18 inches	3
Walleye				
STRIPED BASS (freshwater only)				
	Statewide	March 1–Dec. 31	One @ 28" to < 43" AND one ≥ 43"	1 AND 1
Striped Bass				
HYBRID STRIPED BASS (freshwater only)				
	Statewide (exceptions below)	Open year round	16 inches	2
Hybrid Striped Bass	Raritan River (downstream of Duke Island Park dam)	March 1–Dec. 31	One @ 28" to < 43" AND one ≥ 43"	1 AND 1

Fishing Regulations

SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS

Regulations in red are new this year.

	LOCATION	SEASON	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
AMERICAN SHAD				
 American Shad	Delaware River Mainstem (see regulations on page 28)	Open Year Round Season Closed in all other fresh waters	—	3
CHANNEL CATFISH				
 Channel Catfish	Statewide	Open year round	12 inches	5
CRAPPIE (BLACK AND WHITE)				
 Crappie	Statewide	Open year round	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.	Statewide (exceptions below)	Open year round	No minimum size	25 combined
	Conservation Regulation Ryker Lake	Open year round	Sunfish: 7 inches Yellow Perch: No minimum size	10 combined 10
	Conservation Regulation Rainbow Lake (Salem Co.)	Open year round	Sunfish: 7 inches	10 combined
BANDED, BLACKBANDED, BLUESPOTTED AND MUD SUNFISH				
 Banded Sunfish*  Blackbanded Sunfish*  Bluespotted Sunfish*  Mud Sunfish	Statewide	Closed	Protected	0
* Illustrations by Ted Walke, PA Fish and Boat Commission				
FRESHWATER BAITFISH (See page 31 for complete description of gear types and restrictions)				
American Eel, Banded Killifish, Creek Chub, Fallfish, Fathead Minnow, Gizzard Shad, Golden Shiner, Margined Madtom, Mummichog, and Tadpole Madtom. For Herring, Alewife and Blueback—see <i>Baitfish Regulations</i> (page 31).	Statewide	Open year round Exceptions In trout stocked waters baitfish may only be taken with hook and line: from April 7 to June 15, or in waters open to fishing during the pre-season closure, from March 19 to June 15.	No minimum Exception American Eel: 9 inches	35 combined

Delaware River

2018 REGULATIONS

Species	Open Seasons	Minimum Length	Daily Limit
Bass, Largemouth & Smallmouth	Jan. 1–April 13	12 inches	5 combined
	June 10–Dec. 31		
	April 14–June 9	Catch and release only	Catch and release only
Eel, American**	Open year round	9 inches	50
Herring, Alewife and Blueback	Closed	—	—
Muskellunge & Hybrids	Open year round	40 inches	1
Pickeral, 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	One @ 28" to < 43" AND one ≥43"	1 AND 1
Striped Bass & Hybrids*** (downstream of Calhoun St. Bridge)	March 1–30	One @ 28" to < 43" AND one ≥43"	1 AND 1
	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
Channel Catfish	Open year round	12 inches	5
All Other Freshwater Species	Open year round	No minimum	25
Baitfish	Open year round	No minimum	50

Regulations in red are new this year.

* Due to serious declines in American Shad numbers, the taking of American Shad, except for the Delaware River, is prohibited.

** Pennsylvania has a daily limit of 25 for American eel.

*** Pennsylvania allows anglers to harvest a daily limit of two striped bass measuring 21 to 25 inches for a two month period from April 1 through May 31 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. Anglers should be aware that there are differing size limits and seasons for striped bass for each of the three states bordering the Delaware River. Anglers must obey the regulations for the particular state where they land (catch) striped bass.

Nicholas A. Tonelli

Fishing The Delaware River

Regulation Notices

The Delaware River is a boundary water shared by Pennsylvania and New Jersey with each state's border generally following the centerline of the river. Although the majority of the fishing regulations enacted by both states are identical, there are some distinct differences. Anglers fishing this river must be aware of each state's fishing regulations.

Regardless of an angler's residency or point of boat launching, all are required to comply with the regulations of the state in which they are fishing. An angler fishing—or in possession of fish—between the centerline of the river and the New Jersey shoreline must comply with the New Jersey fishing regulations. An angler fishing—or in possession of fish—between the centerline of the river and the Pennsylvania shoreline must comply with the Pennsylvania fishing regulations.

The reciprocal agreement regarding fishing licenses remains in effect and anglers may continue to fish from shoreline to shoreline in the Delaware River between Pennsylvania and New Jersey using either state's fishing license. Information on each state's fishing regulations can be found at www.fishandboat.com and www.NJFishandWildlife.com. It is incumbent upon anglers to determine in which state they are currently fishing, taking into account that in areas where the river splits, such as around islands, the boundary is clearly and legally defined to one side of the island or another.

All anglers are reminded to comply with each state's marine registry requirements when angling for or catching anadromous species such as striped bass, river herring or shad in the tidal portions of the Delaware River.

- 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 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 www.dnrec.delaware.gov/fw/fisheries/pages/fishinginfo.aspx.
- A listing of fishing access locations along the Delaware River is available at Fish and Wildlife's website, NJFishandWildlife.com, under Freshwater Fishing.
- Delaware River Basin Commission recreation maps are available for \$10. For online ordering information visit [www.state.nj.us/drbc/basin/recreation/](http://www.state.nj.us/drbc/basin/recreation/recreation/).
- Information for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is available online at www.nps.gov/dewa.

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Greenwood Lake

2018 REGULATIONS

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
Pickrel, Chain	Open year round	15 inches	5
Sunfish	Open year round	No minimum	50 combined
Walleye	Jan. 1–Feb. 28	18 inches	3
	March 1–April 30	Catch and release only	
	May 1–Dec. 31	18 inches	3
Herring, Alewife, (landlocked) and blueback	Open year round	6 inches maximum	35 Any unused herring must be returned to Greenwood Lake upon conclusion of the angler's fishing trip. Herring may not be transported away from the lake's shoreline by any mechanism and may not be sold.
All Other Species	Open year round	No minimum	No limit

Regulations in red are new this year.

- 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. **Crossbows are NOT allowed at Greenwood Lake.** 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.

* Effective April 1, 2019 the minimum size limit for Muskellunge will increase to 44"

Lake H. Gordon

2018 New Jersey Musky School

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 6-hour course includes a shore lunch. This is a catch and release event. Muskies Inc. is a non-profit organization. This is a fundraising event. All proceeds benefit the New Jersey musky fishery.

May 19, 2018 on Lake Hopatcong

Fee: \$385 includes one-year membership to Muskies Inc. Contact Jim D. via e-mail at muskyschool@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.MuskiesInc.org and www.mi22.com. Like us on Facebook at Muskies Inc Chapter 22-New Jersey.



Musky School student Jim Saarloos (left) with instructor Steve Scornavacca (right) proudly displaying their 46-inch and 42-inch musky double-header.

Join us for Musky School to see what the excitement is all about!

See separate regulations for Delaware River (page 28).

For marine waters, see the *New Jersey Marine Digest*. Regulations in red are new this year.

Baitfish Regulations

BAITFISH SPECIES

Baitfish species: American Eel, Banded Killifish, Creek Chub, Fallfish, Fathead Minnow, Gizzard Shad, Golden Shiner, Margined Madtom, Mummichog, and Tadpole Madtom. For Herring, Alewife and Blueback—see below.

Season	Location	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Open year round Exception: In trout stocked waters baitfish may be taken only with hook and line: from April 7 to June 15, or in waters open to fishing during the pre-season closure, from March 19 to June 15.	Statewide (fresh waters)	No minimum size Exception American eel: 9 inches	35 per day, species combined
Herring, Alewife and Blueback	All freshwater streams, rivers and marine waters	CLOSED	Possession, take or attempt to take herring PROHIBITED
	Freshwater lakes in Morris, Passaic, Sussex, and Warren counties and Spruce Run Reservoir (Hunterdon)	6 inches maximum	35 Any unused herring must be returned to the water upon conclusion of the angler's fishing trip. Herring may not be transported away from the shoreline of these lakes by any mechanism. They may not be sold.
	All other freshwater lakes (regardless of ownership)	CLOSED	Only purchased herring, no greater than 6 inches, may be possessed. Receipt of purchase, dated within 7 days, must be in possession.

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.

Turtle and Frog Regulations

SPECIES	SEASON	LOCATION	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
Snapping Turtle	April 1–May 14 July 1–October 31	Statewide	12 inches	1 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

Snapping turtles may only be taken in fresh waters of the state. See page 32 for established fishing license lines that designate between fresh and marine waters. 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, traps, hook and line, dip nets (not more than 24 inches in diameter), or by hand. Snapping turtles may not be taken with a gun or bow and arrow. They may NOT be sold unless taken under a Commercial Harvest Permit. 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 (609) 984-0530 for application information.

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 website, 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/marine-services/

Fishing License Lines

2018 REGULATIONS

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

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

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

ESSEX COUNTY

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

GLOUCESTER COUNTY

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

HUDSON COUNTY

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

HUNTERDON COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

MERCER COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

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

MONMOUTH COUNTY

Black Creek—Spillway at Ocean Rd.
Branchport Creek—Mouth of Turtle Mill Brook
Deal Lake—Top of dam
Hockhockson (Pine) Brook—Garden State Parkway northbound bridge
Little Silver Creek—Little Silver Creek Brook
Manasquan River—Bennetts bridge, Manasquan Wildlife Management Area
Matawan Creek—Leferters 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.