

NEW JERSEY Fish & Wildlife Digest



A SUMMARY OF RULES AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION - DIVISION OF FISH, GAME & WILDLIFE

VOL. 13 NO. 2 January 2000

Visit our website at:
www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw

Conserve Wildlife
License Plates
Support Endangered and
Nongame Species
See page 18



NJ Division of Fish, Game & Wildlife Telephone Directory

Internet Address:	www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw
Commercial preserves & semi-wild preserves	609-984-6211
Deer & turkey permit hotline	609-292-9192
DEP Action Lines - 24 hours	609-292-7172
	877-WARNDEP
Exotic & nongame captivity permits	609-292-9591
Falconry permit information	908-735-8793
Family fishing license	609-292-2965
General Information	609-292-2965
Hunter Education	877-2HUNTJ
Hunting, fishing, & duplicate licenses	609-292-2965
Operation Game Thief	800-222-0456
Outstanding deer & grouse programs	609-292-9450
Pheasant & quail stocking information	609-292-1599
Rifle permit information	609-984-1400
Trout stocking hotline	609-633-6765
Wildlife conservation corps information	609-633-3616
Wildlife damage control	908-735-8793
Wildlife management area information	609-292-1599

Trenton Office

501 E. State St., PO Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400	
Endangered and Nongame Species	609-292-9400
Freshwater Fisheries	609-292-1599
Land Management	609-292-1599
Law Enforcement	609-292-9430
Marine Fisheries	609-292-2083
Wildlife Education	609-292-9450
Wildlife Management	609-292-6685

Northern Region Office

26 Route 173 W., Hampton, NJ 08827	
Law Enforcement (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren Counties)	908-735-8240
Endangered and Nongame Species	908-735-8975
Wildlife Damage Control	908-735-8793
Wildlife Management	908-735-7040
Land Management	973-383-0918

Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center

605 Pequest Rd., Oxford, NJ 07863	908-637-4125
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Lebanon Freshwater Fisheries Lab

PO Box 394, Lebanon, NJ 08830	908-236-2118
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Central Region Office

386 Clarksburg-Robbinsville Rd., Robbinsville, NJ 08691	
Law Enforcement (Burlington, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties)	609-259-2120
Land Management	609-259-2132
Wildlife Damage Control	609-259-7955

Southern Region Office

220 Blue Anchor Rd., Sicklerville, NJ 08081	
Information	856-629-0090
Law Enforcement (Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties)	856-629-0555
Land Management	856-629-5006
Freshwater Fisheries	856-629-4950
Wildlife Damage Control	856-629-7224
Wildlife Education	856-629-7214

Nacote Creek Research Station

PO Box 418, Port Republic, NJ 08241	
Marine Law Enforcement	609-748-2050
Marine Fisheries	609-748-2020
Shellfisheries	609-748-2040
Marine Education	609-748-2031
Wildlife Management	609-748-2063

Bivalve Shellfish Office

PO Box 432, Port Norris, NJ 08349	856-785-0730
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A Message from the Director

by Bob McDowell

We are pleased to announce the completion of the first phase in the renovation of the Hackettstown Fish Hatchery. A new "state-of-the-art", intensive fish rearing facility has been constructed to honor our commitment to manage the warmwater fisheries of the State. When the Pequest Trout Hatchery was built, we had promised to renovate the Hackettstown Fish Hatchery to accommodate the propagation of large-mouth bass, walleye, muskellunge, bluegill, hybrid striped bass, channel catfish and other fish species. The new Hackettstown Hatchery is the foundation of that promise.

Although trout have been the most prominent feature of the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife's freshwater fisheries program, surveys of New Jersey anglers have found that the majority of the fishing effort was for warmwater species, especially largemouth bass. While the importance of the trout fishery will not be diminished, we have now created the opportunity for improving bass fishing and establishing new warmwater fisheries throughout the State.

The renovated Hackettstown Fish Hatchery will play a pivotal role in the development of these new and improved fisheries, but there is more to the total warmwater fisheries management program. Fisheries habitat improvement, providing angler access, acquisition of new lakes and along river corridors, changes in regulations when appropriate and a greater promotion of our warmwater fisheries resource will all have a part in the development of this program. We will direct our warmwater fisheries efforts to extract all the benefits of the new hatchery facility. Our reward will be seeing you, your family and friends enjoying the sport of fishing.

Motor Boat Regulations

For information write:

Division of Motor Vehicles
PO Box 403, Trenton, NJ 08625-0403
or contact your local DMV office for a boat "NJ" number Hull numbers are issued by State Police after their inspection.

State Police Troop "F"

Marine Law Enforcement Stations

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

NEW JERSEY Fish & Wildlife Digest

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State of New Jersey
Christine Todd Whitman, Governor

Department of Environmental Protection
Robert C. Shinn, Jr., Commissioner

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

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New Jersey Fish & Wildlife Councils

Fish, Sportfish and Game Council

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Fred Hough, Augusta
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Charles Suk, Denville
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Stephen Potter, New Gretna

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Scott Bailey, Millville
William Bradway, Port Norris
Stephen Fleetwood, Port Norris
Nancy Sittineri, Cape May Court House

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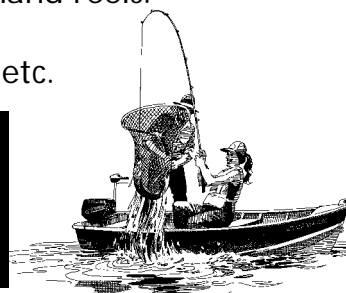
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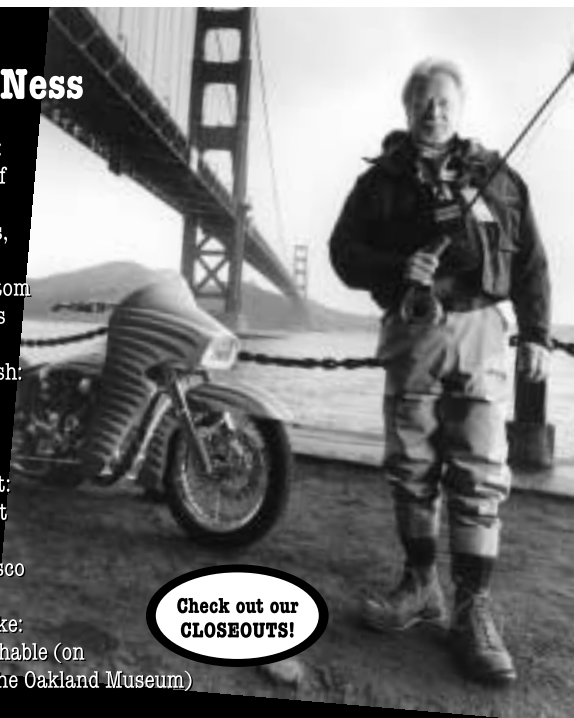
Favorite Fish:
 Striper

Favorite Striper Spot:
 The rocks at Fort Baker, San Francisco

Favorite Bike:
 The Untouchable (on display in the Oakland Museum)

Favorite URL:
www.arlenness.com

Gets his fishing gear and information online at www.worldwaters.com



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Highlights of the Changes in 2000 Freshwater Fishing Regulations

by Robert Soldwedel, Chief, Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries

The main focus of the changes that were made for the 2000 Fish Code was to increase fishing opportunities for New Jersey anglers. To that end, **two new waters were added to the trout stocking schedule: Rowands Pond in Clementon, Camden County and White Lake in Hardwick, Warren County.**

Rowands Pond is part of our most urban Wildlife Management Area. It was stocked with trout for many years until problems developed with its dam and the pond had to be lowered. The repairs to the dam have been completed and the pond will once again be available for trout fishing in the spring, with bass, sunfish and catfish available year round.

White Lake is one of the most picturesque lakes in New Jersey. It is also one of a few lakes that can support trout year round. In addition to adding it to the trout stocking list, we will be managing it as a "Holdover Trout Lake" to take advantage of its uniqueness. This means a reduced daily creel limit for trout to increase the potential for bigger trout next year. As a "Holdover Trout Lake", White Lake will be open for fishing year round, but it will be strictly catch and release trout fishing during

the pre-season trout stocking closure.

We will also be **opening Prospertown Lake and the "Seasonal Trout Conservation Areas" during the pre-season trout stocking closure.** Although it will still be illegal to take trout, fishermen will have the opportunity to stream fish for trout at a time of year when there is a great demand for this kind of fishing, but very little opportunity. At Prospertown Lake the main benefit will be for bass fishermen who will no longer be denied the opportunity to fish for bass because of trout stocking. Everybody comes out ahead on this deal.

Delaware Lake in Warren County, which is now administered by our Division, has been designated as a "Lunker Bass Lake". This program has proven to be very popular with bass fishermen.

The other lakes in this program are Parvin Lake in Salem County and Assunpink Lake in Monmouth County.

Ryker Lake in Sussex County will be managed to maintain the size structure of its panfish population which is currently dominated by large fish. This will be the only lake in the

State with a minimum size limit on sunfish (seven inches). As some fishermen know, a seven inch bluegill will put up a better fight than many of the more publicized game fish. As in the "Lunker Bass Lakes", the size limit for bass here will be 15 inches, but you'll only be allowed to keep two a day (the creel limit is three in the "Lunker Bass Lakes"). Ryker Lake will be the most strictly regulated warmwater fishery in the State, so we are quite interested in seeing how it turns out, both in terms of its future fish population and in terms of angler acceptance.

Two other changes of note: 1) **fishing is to be closed adjacent to fish ladders starting March 1st, instead of April 1st,** to protect early runs of anadromous fish; 2) the **Delaware River reference point for striped bass fishing will now be the Route 1 bridge** instead of the Trenton Falls. Both sites are right along side of each other, but the bridge is a more definite point as opposed to the falls which cover several hundred yards.

Oh yes, before I forget **trout season will open on April 8th, at 8:00 a.m.**

Wall-To-Wall Walleyes in Swartswood Lake

By: Patricia L. Hamilton, Principal Fisheries Biologist

A relative newcomer to New Jersey's inland waters, walleyes are making a big splash in Swartswood Lake. Walleyes are considered a coolwater fish, with temperature preferences between those of coldwater fishes like trout, and warmwater fishes such as largemouth bass and sunfish. They also like slightly turbid water conditions and rocky bottoms with drop-offs. Over ten years ago the Division's Hackettstown Hatchery began successfully rearing this non-native gamefish for introduction in the newly created Monksville Reservoir. Later refinements in our hatchery production made it possible to expand our stocking efforts into other suitable waters including Swartswood Lake, Lake Hopatcong, Greenwood Lake, Delaware River, and Canistota Reservoir.

Since 1992, the Division has been stocking walleye fry and fingerlings in Swartswood Lake, Sussex County. This 494 acre lake not only has favorable walleye habitat, but also good forage fish species like alewives (herring) and yellow perch. Over the first seven years more than 165,000 walleyes were stocked, but anglers provided little feedback regarding the walleye catch. Could it be that the fishery just wasn't developing as expected or were the walleyes simply outsmarting the anglers?

In the spring of 1999 we set out to investigate the status of Swartswood's walleye population. Our objective was to estimate the size of the existing walleye population using a technique called mark-recapture. Intensive sam-

pling (using trap nets and electrofishing at night) was conducted over a 13 day period in late March-early April, when walleyes move into shallow water in search of spawning sites. As walleyes were captured they were examined and marked by clipping a portion of their tail fin, then immediately released back into the lake. At the conclusion of the sampling period we applied a statistical procedure, based upon the number of marked fish recaptured, to estimate the size of the population.

A total of 242 walleyes - ranging in size from 11.7 to 24.3 inches - were caught, with the largest (a female laden with eggs) weighing in at 6.3 lbs. Only thirteen of these fish were captured more than once. This data yielded a population estimate of approximately 2,000 walleyes over 12 inches, just what we had expected (and hoped) to find in this lake.

So walleyes are alive and well in Swartswood Lake. As to the lack of feedback from anglers, I venture to say this good-fighting and fine-eating sportfish has either been elusive, or their catch is a closely guarded secret among successful anglers. So visit Swartswood Lake and try to unlock the secret to this lake's new and exciting fishery.

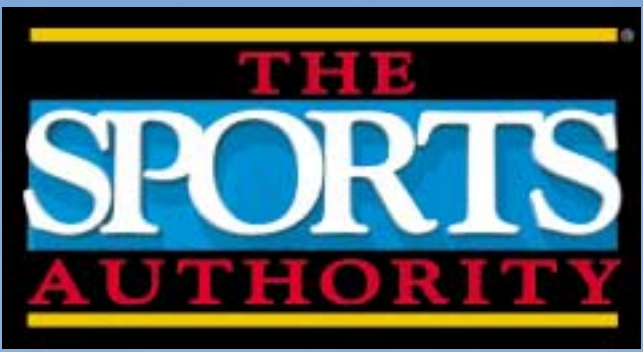


Mission

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

Goals

1. 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.
2. To educate New Jerseyans on the values and needs of our fish and wildlife and to foster a positive human/wildlife co-existence.
3. To maximize the recreational and commercial uses of New Jersey's fish and wildlife for both present and future generations.



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2000 SUMMARY OF NEW JERSEY

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

LICENSE INFORMATION & FEES

(Licenses are valid from purchase to Dec. 31 of each year)

Resident Family Fishing-Parents.....	\$27.50
Supplementary-each child 14-18	2.25
Resident Fishing.....	16.50
Jr.-Sr. Resident Fishing (Ages 14, 15 & 65-69 yrs.).....	7.75
Resident Trout Stamp.....	7.75
Non-resident Fishing.....	25.25
Non-resident Trout Stamp.....	15.50
Non-resident or Vacation Fishing (7-day).....	16.50
All-Around Sportsman (includes resident fishing, firearm hunting and bow / arrow hunting licenses)	60.50

Canadian residents please note funds are in U.S. dollars.

NOTICE

There is a proposal to increase fishing license fees and change the licensing requirements for certain categories of anglers. At press time, it was not known what changes might become effective, if any. Please check with a license issuing agent or read the outdoor writer columns in New Jersey newspapers for any fee or license category changes.

A fishing license must be worn in a conspicuous place on the outer clothing while engaged in fishing, and must be exhibited to law enforcement personnel on request.

Anyone age 14 and above must have a valid license to fish the fresh waters of New Jersey with a handline, rod and line or long-bow and arrow. This includes privately owned lakes and other waters. Licenses may be obtained from participating county or municipal clerks, or designated agents (sporting goods stores).

Resident Licenses

It is unlawful for any person to obtain a resident license unless they have actually lived in this state for 6 months immediately prior to the time of application.

Family Fishing Licenses

Family fishing licenses (which allow parents or guardians and their children, foster children or wards between the ages of 14 and 18 to fish at a reduced rate) are only available from the Division's office in Trenton. Proof of legal guardianship including birth certificates is required. Children must be 14-18 years old for a family to qualify.

Licenses for servicemen and women

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

Trout Stamp

No person between the ages of 14 and 69 shall take, attempt to take, possess or kill trout without a valid fishing license and trout stamp.

EXCEPTIONS

Anglers Under 14 Years

No fishing license is required of persons under 14 years old.

Fishing on a Farm

Farmers and family members that live on the farm do not need a license to fish on their farm, but must obey the fishing regulations.

Licenses for the Blind

Residents afflicted with total blindness may obtain a free license from the division's Trenton office.

Resident Senior Citizens (70 and over)

Since Jan. 1, 1997, a driver's license or other acceptable proof of age containing date of birth and physical description will function as the actual fishing license for residents 70 and over. No application fee is required, no registration with the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife is required and no license will be issued. Trout stamps are not required for resident anglers 70 and over.

REPLACEMENT OF LOST LICENSES

Duplicate fishing licenses are issued at all law enforcement regional offices, the Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center, and the division's Trenton office. Each licensee is provided with a license and a receipt. Be sure to keep the receipt separate from your license, so that if the actual license is lost, you can take the receipt to any of the above offices and get a replacement for \$2.00. Stamps cannot be replaced.

REVOCACTION

Anyone convicted of a second violation against fish and / or wildlife within a period of 5 years will have their New Jersey licenses revoked for 2 years.

BOUNDARY WATERS

Delaware River

New Jersey or Pennsylvania fishing licenses are recognized on both shorelines, and anglers may launch a boat from either shore. On returning, an angler may have in possession any fish which might be legally taken according to the regulations of the state from which the angler launched his / her boat.

Angling may be done with 2 rods, each with one line, or 2 handlines, or one of each. Not more than 3 single hooks or 3 burrs of 3 hooks each may be used per line.

There is a six fish daily creel limit on American shad.

The trout season for the Delaware River extends from April 8 through September 30 with no minimum size limit and a daily bag of 5 trout.

The size limit for striped bass and hybrid bass in the Delaware River is 28 inches and the bag limit is 2 fish in total (includes both species). The season for striped bass / hybrid bass downstream of Rt. 1 Bridge extends from March 1 through 31 and June 1 through December 31. Upstream of Rt. 1 Bridge the season extends from March 1 through December 31.

Spears (not mechanically propelled) and longbows may be used to take shad, eels, carp, suckers, herring and bullheads by properly licensed anglers except within 825 ft. of an eel weir.

Greenwood Lake

New York and New Jersey licenses are legal anywhere on the lake from a boat only. Fishing is permitted 24 hours a day. Bow and arrow fishing for carp, suckers, herring, catfish and eels is permitted. Ice fishermen may not use more than five tip-ups and two hand held devices. All ice fishing devices that are not hand held must be plainly marked with the name and address of the angler.

See also page 20 for additional regulations relating to Greenwood Lake and the Delaware River.

GENERAL FISHING REGULATIONS

It is Unlawful:

- To take or attempt to take any fish in fresh waters by any manner except in the manner commonly known as angling with handline or with rod and line, or as otherwise allowed by law.
- To fish, place any contrivance for the taking of fish, or attempt to catch or kill fish by any manner or means in any fish ladder, or within 100 feet (or as posted) of any fish ladder entrance or exit during the period of March 1 through June 30.

FRESHWATER FISHING LAWS



It is Unlawful To:

- spear fish in fresh waters. (See exception for Del. River, page 6.)
- possess or use any contrivance in fishing with more than nine hooks or more than three burrs of three hooks.
- use set lines in waters inhabited by pickerel, walleye, bass or trout.
- erect, permit the erection of, or maintain unlawful contrivances for taking fish.
- use explosives to take fish.
- use cast nets in fresh waters.
- trespass on posted property to fish without permission from the landowner. A fishing license doesn't authorize trespass on private property.
- tag fish without a permit.

The foul hooking of largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, striped bass, chain pickerel, northern pike, muskellunge, walleye, brook trout, brown trout, lake trout and rainbow trout or any of the hybrids thereof, is prohibited in open waters. Any of the aforementioned fish so hooked must be immediately returned to the water. This does not apply to fish taken through the ice during the ice fishing season. Snagging of any species is prohibited in Monksville Reservoir and its tributaries, including the Wanaque River upstream of the reservoir.

Fish Tagging

No person may tag or mark and release a fish without first obtaining a special permit issued by the Division at its discretion. Fish stocking permits will be accepted as an alternative to this permit. This requirement does not apply to tags issued by the Division. Contact the Lebanon Fish Lab at 908/236-2118 for application information.

Possession of Fish

"Possession" refers to all fish, alive or dead, under the control of the angler. No more than the daily creel limit of any fish for one person may be held on a stringer or in a container. On board containers in boats may only contain the combined daily creel limit of any fish for each legal angler.

Waste of Fish

Fish of any species, which are purposely killed, will become part of the fishermen's daily bag limit and must be removed from the waters they were taken from, as well as any adjacent lands, and either used or otherwise properly disposed of. This does NOT apply to fish that are released while still alive.

Sale of Fish

Pickerel, walleye and perch caught through the ice cannot be sold. It is illegal to sell any smallmouth or largemouth bass, except for stocking. It is illegal to import or export smallmouth or largemouth bass into the state for commercial purposes.

Trout or landlocked salmon which have been artificially propagated may be sold at any time for food purposes if properly tagged in accordance with the division's rules or the rules of the state in which the fish have been raised.

It is illegal to offer for sale any striped bass.

Bait

Any person who has a fishing license or is entitled to fish without a license may take up to 35 baitfish per day in fresh waters with a seine not over 50 feet long, in ponds and lakes of over 100 acres, and in other fresh waters with a seine not over 30 feet in length, or half the width of the stream at the point of use. (See bait regulations for trout-stocked waters.) Dip nets may not be larger than 24 inches in diameter.

Fish Stocking

Fish or fish eggs shall not be placed into, drained into or placed where they can run, flow, wash or be emptied into any of the fresh waters of the state without first obtaining a permit.

Snapping Turtles, Bull Frogs and Green Frogs

Any person who has a fishing license or is 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. The use of set lines is prohibited.

The open season for taking of snapping turtles shall extend from January 1, 2000 through April 30, 2000 and from June 16, 2000 through April 30, 2001. The open season for the taking of bull frogs and green frogs shall be from January 1, 2000 through March 31, 2000 and from July 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001.

The daily limit for snapping turtles is 3. The daily limit for bull frogs and green frogs is 15 in total. Snapping turtles, bull frogs and green frogs

may be taken in numbers greater than the daily limit under special permit issued by the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife at its discretion.

Ice Fishing

Ice fishing shall be permitted whenever ice is present. (See separate regulations for trout-stocked waters.)

A person while ice fishing may use not more than five devices for taking fish. The types of devices that may be used are:

1. Ice supported tip-ups or lines with one single pointed hook attached, or one burr of 3 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.

Expressly prohibited are any devices with automatic hook setting capability. 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 can't be left unattended.

When ice is not present, open water regulations will be in effect (see separate regulations for Greenwood Lake).

Carp and suckers may be taken with net under the ice. Suckers may be taken through the ice by means of hooks directly attached to a rigid handle, the hooks not to exceed three in number, between December 1 and March 1.

Bow and Arrow Fishing

Any species of fish, except brook, brown, lake or rainbow trout, landlocked Atlantic salmon, largemouth or smallmouth bass, striped bass or any of its hybrids, pickerel, northern pike, walleye, muskellunge or any of its hybrids, may be taken at any time by use of a longbow and arrow with line attached by the holder of a proper fishing license (see regulations for the Delaware River and Greenwood Lake). A fishing license is required.

Pollution—Draining Waters—Dams

It is unlawful to directly or indirectly pollute waters of the state. It is illegal to draw off water or place screens in water without permission of the division. It is illegal to construct a dam in any water of this state which is a runway for migratory fish without installing a fish ladder or other contrivance that permits fish to pass over the dam in either direction. Report pollution or other offenses to 609-292-7172 or the Operation Game Thief Line (800-222-0456).

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, Game 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.

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

Permits for Freshwater Fisheries

Water Lowering	\$2.00	Lebanon Fisheries Lab	908/236-2118
Fish Stocking	2.00	Lebanon Fisheries Lab	908/236-2118
Baitfish Collecting	2.00	Lebanon Fisheries Lab	908/236-2118
Triploid Grass Carp	2.00	Lebanon Fisheries Lab	908/236-2118
Fish Tagging	2.00	Lebanon Fisheries Lab	908/236-2118
Turtle & Frog Collecting	2.00	Trenton Office	609/292-1599
Eel Weirs	2.00	Trenton Office	609/292-1599
Scientific Collecting	22.00	Trenton Office	609/292-1599

TROUT FISHING REGULATIONS

Trout Season and Daily Creel Limit

The trout season for 2000 begins at 12:01 a.m., January 1, and extends to midnight, March 19, 2000. The trout season shall re-open at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, April 8, 2000 and extend to and include March 18, 2001. Between midnight on March 19, 2000 to 8:00 a.m. on April 8, 2000 it is illegal to fish for any species of fish in ponds, lakes or those portions of streams that are listed herein for stocking during 2000.

Exceptions to the trout season and/or daily creel limit occur on the following: Lake Hopatcong, Prospertown Lake, Manasquan Reservoir, Spruce Run Reservoir, Delaware River, Greenwood Lake, Farrington Lake and Lake Shenandoah and Special Regulation Trout Areas. (Consult page 10 and 11 for details.) Also Cannistear Reservoir, Clinton Reservoir and the section of the Pequannock River regulated as a Wild Trout Stream are within the Newark Watershed which has a limited season that closes in late October and re-opens on the opening day of trout season each spring. For further information contact the Watershed at 973-697-2850.

No person shall take, kill or have in possession in one day more than 6 in total of brook trout, brown trout, rainbow trout or hybrids thereof during the period extending from 8:00 a.m. April 8, 2000 until midnight May 31, 2000 or more than 4 of these species during the periods of January 1, 2000 to midnight March 19, 2000 and June 1, 2000 to midnight March 18, 2001.

Only one creel limit of trout may be in possession. Trout may be caught once the creel is reached if they are immediately returned to the water unharmed. Separate stringers or buckets must be used for each person's catch; two people may not share a stringer or a bucket. On board containers in boats may only contain the combined daily creel limit for each legal angler on board.

Size limits and creel limits on species other than trout are in accordance with statewide regulations.

The division reserves the right to suspend stocking when emergency conditions prevail.

TROUT STOCKED WATERS WITH NO IN-SEASON CLOSURES

The waters listed below are open during the entire in-season stocking. For details on what's being stocked and when, call the Trout Hotline (in April, May and October) at 609-633-6765. This recorded message is updated weekly. Or visit our website at www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw.

Note that the number in parentheses indicates the anticipated number of in season stockings (between opening day and May 31).

A zero indicates that the water will only be stocked pre-season (before opening day).

Atlantic County

Birch Grove Park Pond—Northfield (4)
Hammonton Lake—Hammonton (4)

Bergen County

Hackensack River—Lake Tappan to Harriot Avenue, Harrington Park (4)
Hohokus Brook—Forest Road to Whites Pond (4)
Indian Lake—Little Ferry (4)
Mill Pond—Park Ridge (3)
Pascack Creek—Orchard Street, Hillsdale, to Lake Street, Westwood (4)
Saddle River—State line to Dunkerhook Rd., Fairlawn (5)
Tiencill Creek—Closter, entire length (3)
Whites Pond—Waldwick (4)

Burlington County

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

Camden County

Haddon Lake—Audubon (0)
Oak Pond—Sicklerville (4)
Rowands Pond—Clementon (4)

Cape May County

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

Cumberland County

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

Essex County

Branch Brook Park Lake—Newark (4)
Clarks Pond—Bloomfield (0)
Diamond Mill Pond—Millburn (3)
Verona Park Lake—Verona (4)

Gloucester County

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

Iona Lake—Iona (3)
Mullica Hill Pond—Mullica Hill (3)
Swedesboro Lake—Swedesboro (3)
Westville Lake—Westville (0)

Hudson County

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

Hunterdon County

Amwell Lake—Linvale (3)
Beaver Brook—Clinton Township, entire length (2)
Capoolong Creek—Pittstown, entire length (5)
Delaware—Raritan Feeder Canal—Bulls Island to Hunterdon/Mercer County line (6)
Everittstown Brook—Everittstown, entire length (1)
Frenchtown Brook—Frenchtown, entire length (2)
Hakihokake Creek—Holland Township, entire length (2)
Lockatong Creek—Kingwood Township, entire length (5)
Mulhockaway Creek—Pattenburg, source to Spruce Run Reservoir (5)
Neshanic River—Kuhl Road to Hunterdon County Route 514 (2)
Rockaway Creek—Readington Township, entire length (4)
Rockaway Creek, S. Br.—Lebanon to Whitehouse, entire length (5)
Round Valley Reservoir—Lebanon (3)
Spring Mills Brook—Spring Mills, entire length (2)
Spruce Run—Glen Gardner and Lebanon Township, entire length (5)
Spruce Run Reservoir—Clinton (3)
Sydney Brook—Sydney, entire length (1)
Wickecheoke Creek—Covered Bridge, Sergeantsville to Delaware River (2)

Mercer County

Assunpink Creek—Assunpink Site 5 Dam upstream of Rt. 130 Bridge to Carnegie Rd., Hamilton Twp. (4)
Colonial Lake—Lawrence Township (3)
Delaware Raritan Canal—Mulberry St., Trenton to Alexander St., Princeton (4)
Delaware Raritan Feeder Canal—Hunterdon/Mercer County line to Upper Ferry Road Bridge (6)

Rosedale Lake—Rosedale (3)
Stony Brook—Woodsville to Port Mercer (4)

Middlesex County

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

Monmouth County

Englishtown Mill Pond—Englishtown (3)
Garvey's Pond—Navesink (3)
Hockhockson Brook—Hockhockson Road to Garden State Parkway Bridge (northbound) (5)
Holmdel Park Pond—Holmdel (3)
Mac's Pond—Manasquan (0)
Manasquan Reservoir—Howell Township (3)
Mingamahone Brook—Farmingdale, Hurley Pond Road to Manasquan River (5)
Mohawk Pond—Red Bank (4)
Pine Brook—Tinton Falls, Jersey Central Railroad to Hockhockson Brook (2)
Shadow Lake—Red Bank (3)
Shark River—Hamilton, Route 33 to Remsen Mill Road (5)
Spring Lake—Spring Lake (3)
Takanassee Lake—Long Branch (4)
Topenemus Lake—Freehold (3)
Yellow Brook—Heyers Mill Road to Muhlenbrink Rd., Colts Neck Township (2)

Morris County

Beaver Brook—Rockaway, entire length
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, entire length (5)
Lake Hopatcong—Lake Hopatcong (3)
Lake Musconetcong—Netcong (3)
Mill Brook—Center Grove, entire length (2)
Mt. Hope Pond—Mt. Hope (3)
Passaic River—White Bridge to Dead River (4)
Pompton River—Pequannock Township (see Passaic Co.) (4)
Russia Brook—Jefferson Twp., Ridge Rd. to Lake Swannanoa (2)

Speedwell Lake—Morristown (4)
Whippany River—Tingley Road, Morris Twp. to
Ridgedale Ave., Morristown (2)

Ocean County

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

Passaic County

Barbours Pond—West Paterson (3)
Clinton Reservoir—Newark Watershed (3)
Monksville Reservoir—Hewitt (3)
Oldham Pond—North Haledon (3)
Pequannock River—Route 23, Smoke Rise to
Paterson—Hamburg Turnpike, Pompton
Lakes (6)
Pompton Lake—Pompton Lakes (3)
Pompton River—Pompton Lake to Newark-
Pompton Turnpike (4)
Ringwood Brook—State line to Sallys Fond,
Ringwood Park (5)
Shepherd Lake—Thunder Mountain, Ringwood
Borough (3)

Salem County

Harrisonville Lake—Harrisonville (3)
Maurice River—Willow Grove Lake Dam to
Sherman Avenue, Vineland (4)
Schadlers Sand Wash Pond—Pennsgrrove (3)

Somerset County

Harrison Brook—Liberty Corner, entire length
(1)
Lamington River—Rt. 523 (Lamington Road) at
Burnt Mills to Jct. with the North Branch of
Raritan River (4)
Middle Brook, E. Br.—Martinsville, entire length
(2)
Passaic River—White Bridge to Dead River (4)
Peapack Brook—Peapack, entire length (5)
Raritan River—Jct. of Raritan River N. Br., and S.
Br., to Rt. 206 bridge (4)
Rock Brook—Zion, entire length (1)
Spooky Brook Park Pond—Franklin (0)

Sussex County

Alms House Pond—Myrtle Grove, Hampton
Twp., (3)
Andover Junction Brook—Andover, entire
length (2)
Biers Kill—Shaytown, entire length (2)
Big Flat Brook, Upper—Saw Mill Lake, High
Point State Park to 100 ft. above Steam Mill
Bridge on Crigger Road, Stokes St. Forest (4)
Blue Mountain Lake—Delaware Water Gap
NRA (3)
Canistear Reservoir—Newark Watershed (3)
Clove River—jct. of Route 23 and Mt. Salem Rd.
to Route 565 bridge (5)
Cranberry Lake—Byram Township (3)
Culvers Lake Brook—Frankford Twp., entire
length (5)
Dry Brook—Branchville, entire length (3)
Franklin Pond Creek—Hamburg Mt. W.M.A.,
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 Township, entire length
(5)
Neldon Brook—Swartswood, entire length (2)
Papakating Creek—Plains Road bridge to Route
565, Pelletstown (2)

Papakating Creek, W. Br.—Libertyville, entire
length (2)
Pond Brook—Middleville, entire length (5)
Roy Spring Brook—Stillwater, entire length (1)
Saw Mill Lake—High Point State Park (3)
Shimers Brook—Montague Twp., entire length
(2)
Silver Lake—Hamburg Mountain WMA (0)
Stony Lake—Stokes State Forest (3)
Swartswood Lake—Swartswood (3)
Trout Brook—Middleville, entire length (2)
Tuttles Corner Brook—Stokes State Forest, entire
length (2)
Waywayanda Lake—Vernon (3)

Union County

Green Brook—Route 527, Berkeley Heights to
Route 22, Scotch Plains (2)
Lower Echo Park Pond—Mountainside (3)
Milton Lake—Madison Hill Road Bridge to
Milton Lake Dam, Rahway (4)
Rahway River—I-78 bridge, Springfield to St.
George Ave. (Route 27), Rahway (4)
Seeleys Pond—Berkeley Heights (3)
Warinanco Park Pond—Roselle (0)

Warren County

Barkers Mill Brook—Vienna, entire length (1)
Beaver Brook—Silver Lake Dam to Pequest
River (4)
Blair Creek—Hardwick Center to Blair Lake (2)
Blair Lake—Blairstown (3)
Buckhorn Creek—Roxburg, entire length (2)
Columbia Lake and Gatehole—Knowlton Twp.
(3)
Furnace Brook—Oxford, entire length (2)
Furnace Lake—Oxford (3)
Honey Run—Swayzes Mill Road to Route 519,
Hope Township (2)
Jacksonburg Creek—Jacksonburg, entire length
(2)
Lopatcong Creek—Route 519 to South Main
Street, Phillipsburg (5)
Merrill Creek Reservoir—Stewartsville (1)
Mountain Lake—Buttzville (3)
Pohatcong Creek—Mt. Bethel to Route 31 (2)
Pophandusing Creek—Oxford Road, Hazen to
Delaware River (2)
Roaring Rock Brook—Brass Castle, entire length
(2)
Trout Brook—Hackettstown, entire length (2)
Trout Brook—Hope, entire length (2)
White Lke—Hardwick(1)



What Does This Logo Mean to You?

Every time you purchase fishing equipment, you contribute to the enhancement of sportfisheries throughout the United States. Each year, in addition to license fees, U.S. anglers contribute nearly \$300 million to sport fisheries enhancement projects across the nation. Most do this unknowingly through user fees collected through the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration program.

It was in 1950 that the original Sport Fish Restoration (or Dingell-Johnson Act) was passed. This legislation, supported by the sporting community and the fishing tackle industry, is still in effect. It applies a 10-percent manufacturers excise tax to fishing rods, reels and creels as well as artificial lures, baits and flies. The money collected through this tax or "user fee" is specifically earmarked for states and is to be used only for projects that enhance sport fishing.

New Jersey anglers can be proud of the contribution they make to the enhancement and conservation of both our own and the nation's sportfish populations.

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TROUT FISHING REGULATIONS - 2000

TROUT - GENERAL (BROOK, BROWN, RAINBOW & LAKE TROUT AND HYBRIDS THEREOF)

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	EXCEPTIONS
January 1 to March 19	7 inches	4	1) Waters with in-season stocking 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 & seasonal trout conservation areas, fly fishing & no kill areas, trophy & holdover trout lakes). 3) Lk. Hopatcong, Prospertown Lake, Manasquan Res., Farrington Lake, Lake Shenandoah and Spruce Run Res. - fishing is permitted during the period Mar. 20 to April 8 at 8 a.m. All trout caught during this period must immediately be released. 4) Greenwood Lk. & Delaware River - see separate regulations for Boundary Waters.
March 20 to April 8 at 8 a.m.	Fishing prohibited on all waters listed for stocking		
April 8 at 8 a.m. to May 31	7 inches	6	
June 1 to December 31	7 inches	4	

TROUT STOCKED WATERS WITH CLOSED IN-SEASON STOCKING DATES

Closed to fishing 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on dates listed for stocking, including all tributaries, for a distance of 100 ft. from the main channel

MONDAYS April 10, 17, 24 May 1, 8, 15, 22	<u>Manasquan River</u> - Rt. 9 bridge downstream to Bennetts bridge, Manasquan WMA <u>Metedeconk River, N/Br.</u> - Aldrich Rd. bridge to Ridge Ave. <u>Metedeconk River, S/Br.</u> - Bennetts Mill dam to twin wooden foot bridge, opposite Lake Park Blvd. on South Lake Drive, Lakewood <u>Rockaway River</u> - Longwood Lk. dam (Jefferson Twp) to Jersey City Reservoir in Boonton <u>Toms River</u> - Rt. 528, Holmansville, to confluence with Maple Root Branch, and Rt. 70 bridge to Rt. 571 bridge <u>Wallkill River</u> - Lake Mohawk dam to Rt. 23, Hamburg
TUESDAYS April 11, 18, 25 May 2, 9, 16, 23	<u>Pohatcong Creek</u> - Rt. 31 to Delaware River <u>Raritan River, S/Br.</u> - Budd Lk. dam to jct. with N/Br. Raritan River
WEDNESDAYS April 12, 19, 26 May 3, 10, 17, 24	<u>Raritan River, N/Br.</u> - Peapack Rd. bridge in Far Hills to jct. with S/Br. Raritan River
THURSDAYS April 13, 20, 27 May 4, 11, 18, 25	<u>Black River</u> - Rt. 206, Chester to the posted Black River Fish & Game Club property at the lower end of Hacklebarney State Park <u>Paulinskill River - and E/Br. and W/Br.</u> - Limecrest RR spur bridge on E/Br., Sparta Twp., and Warbasse Jct. Rd. to (Rt. 663) on W/Br, Lafayette Twp., to Columbia Lake (Exception: E/Br open for fishing but subject to year-round trout conservation area regs) <u>Ramapo River</u> - State line to Pompton Lk. (including Potash Lake)
FRIDAYS April 14, 21, 28 May 5, 12, 19, 26	<u>Big Flat Brook</u> - 100 ft. above Steam Mill bridge on Crigger Rd. in Stokes S.F. to Delaware River <u>Musconetcong River</u> - Lk. Hopatcong dam to Delaware R. including all mainstream impoundments except for Lk. Musconetcong <u>Pequest River</u> - source downstream to Delaware River <u>Wanaque River</u> - Greenwood Lk. dam to jct. with Pequannock River, excluding Wanaque Res., Monksville Res. and Lk. Inez

TROUT STOCKED WATERS WITHOUT CLOSED IN-SEASON STOCKING DATES

Consult pages 8 and 9 for a complete list.

WILD TROUT STREAMS

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS (in effect year round)
April 8 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15	7 inches (see # 3)	2	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) The minimum size for brown trout in Van Campens Bk. & Pequannock R. is 12 inches.
Jan. 1 to April 8 at 8 a.m. & Sept. 16 to Dec. 31	Catch & Release Only		
Bear Creek (Southtown) Bear Swamp Brook (Mahwah) Black Brook (Clinton WMA) Burnett Brook (Ralston) Cold Brook (Oldwick) Dark Moon Brook (Johnsonburg) Dunnfield Creek (Del. Water Gap) Flanders Brook (Flanders) Hances Brook (Penwell) Hickory Run (Califon) India Brook (source to Mountain-side Ave., Mendham)	<u>Indian Grove Brook</u> (Bernardsville) <u>Ledgewood Brook</u> (Ledgewood) <u>Little York Brook</u> (Little York) <u>Lomerson Brook</u> (Pottersville) <u>Merrill Creek</u> (Stewartsville) <u>Mill Brook</u> (Montague) <u>N/Br. Rockaway Creek</u> (Mountainville) <u>Parker Brook</u> (Stokes S.F.) <u>Passaic River</u> (source to Rt. 202, Bernardsville)	<u>Pequannock River</u> (Newark, Watershed, Oak Ridge Rd. bridge downstream to Railroad bridge immediately upstream of Charlottesville Res.) <u>Rhineharts Brook</u> (Hacklebarney S.P.) <u>Rocky Run</u> (Clinton Twp.) <u>Stephensburg Creek</u> (Stephensburg) <u>Stony Brook</u> (Stokes S.F.) <u>Stony Brook</u> (Washington Twp.,	Morris Co.) <u>Tetertown Brook</u> (Tetertown) <u>Trout Brook</u> (Hacklebarney S.P.) <u>Turkey Brook</u> (Mt. Olive) <u>Van Campens Brook</u> (Delaware Water Gap Nat'l Recreation Area) <u>West Brook</u> (source downstream to Windbeam Club property) <u>Willoughby Brook</u> (Clinton Twp.)

YEAR ROUND TROUT CONSERVATION AREAS

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS (in effect year round)
January 1 to March 19	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 in-season stocking closures which apply to the river. All trout caught during these periods must be immediately released.
March 20 to April 8 at 8 a.m.	Catch & Release Only		
April 8 at 8 a.m. to Dec. 31	15 inches	1 (see # 3)	

Paulinskill River, E/Br. (Sussex County) - from the Limecrest railroad spur bridge downstream to its confluence with the W/Br. Paulinskill at Warbasse Jct. (approx. 2.25 miles)
S/Br. Raritan River (Morris County) - a section of river, known locally as the Claremont Stretch, extending from the downstream end of the posted Anglers Anonymous property downstream to its junction with Electric Brook (approx. 1.1 miles)
Toms River (Ocean County) - the downstream end of Riverwood Pk. in Dover Twp, defined by markers, downstream to the Rt. 571 bridge (approx. 1 mile)

SEASONAL TROUT CONSERVATION AREAS

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS
January 1 to March 19	15 inches	1	1) Only artificial lures may be used. 2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3) Pequest R. - fishing is not permitted during the first six in-season stocking closure dates. Fishing is permitted during the last in season stocking closure date (May 26), but all trout caught between 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. must be immediately released.
March 20 to midnight April 7	Catch & Release Only		
April 8 (12:01 am to 8 am)	Fishing Prohibited		
April 8 at 8 a.m. to May 21 Gear restrictions do not apply	7 inches	6	
May 22 to Dec. 31	15 inches	1	

Pequannock River (Morris/Passaic Counties) - Rt. 23 bridge at Smoke Rise downstream to the Rt. 23 bridge at Smith Mills (approx. 1.2 miles)
Pequest River (Warren County) - from the Conrail Railroad bridge located upstream of the Pequest Trout Hatchery Access Rd. downstream to Rt. 625 (Pequest Furnace Rd.) bridge (approx. 1 mile)

FLY FISHING AREAS

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS
January 1 to March 19	7 inches	4	1) Only artificial flies are allowed, which are expressly limited to dry flies, wet flies, bucktails, nymphs and streamers. Expressly prohibited are metal, plastic, or wooden lures, plugs, spinners, and flies with spinners attached or any multiple-hooked device. Spinning reels or any type of angling whereby a fly is cast directly from the reel are expressly prohibited. 2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3) Fishing is not permitted during the in-season stocking closures.
March 20 to April 8 at 8 a.m.	Fishing not permitted		
April 8 at 8 a.m. to April 17 at 5 a.m. Gear restrictions do not apply except on Blewett Tract	7 inches	6	
April 17 at 5 a.m. to May 31	7 inches	6	
June 1 to December 31	7 inches	4	

Big Flat Brook (Sussex County) - Rt. 206 bridge downstream to the Roy bridge on Mountain Rd., a distance of approx. 4 miles, except that portion known as the Blewett Tract
Blewett Tract - 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 Bk. and Little Flat Bk.
Raritan Rlver, S/Br. (Hunterdon County) - the stretch of water known as the Ken Lockwood Gorge, a distance of approximately 2.5 miles

NO KILL AREA

RESTRICTIONS (in effect year round)
Open to fishing year round except during the in season stocking closures. All trout caught must be immediately released. <u>Musconetcong River</u> (Morris/Warren Counties) - Rt. 24 bridge downstream 1 mile to the entrance of the river into the Johnson property

TROPHY TROUT LAKES

LOCATIONS	SPECIES	SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
<u>Merrill Creek Reservoir</u>	brown & rainbow trout	January 1 to December 31	15 inches	2
	lake trout	January 1 to September 15 and December 1 to December 31	15 inches	2
<u>Round Valley Reservoir</u>	brown & rainbow trout	January 1 to December 31	15 inches	2
	lake trout	January 1 to September 15 and December 1 to December 31	24 inches	1

HOLDOVER TROUT LAKES

LOCATIONS	SPECIES	SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
<u>Clinton Reservoir</u> <u>Lake Aeroflex</u> <u>Lake Wawayanda</u> <u>Monksville Reservoir</u> <u>Shepherd Lake</u> <u>Swartwood Lake</u> <u>White Lake</u>	all trout species	January 1 to March 19	7 inches	2
		March 19 to April 8 at 8 a.m.	Catch & Release Only	
		April 8 at 8 a.m. to May 31	7 inches	4
		June 1 to December 31	7 inches	2

BOUNDARY WATERS

LOCATIONS	SPECIES	SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
<u>Delaware River</u>	all trout species	April 8 to September 30 (trout caught at other times must be immediately released)	no min. size	5
<u>Greenwood Lake</u>	all trout species	January 1 to December 31	no min. size	3

Warm and coolwater fish regulations

Conservation Regulations

Special conservation regulations have been established at Ryker Lake, Sussex County, to protect and maintain the quality of panfish and largemouth bass fisheries.

Species	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Largemouth Bass	15 inches	2
Sunfish	7 inches	10 (combined)
Yellow perch	none	10

Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass

The minimum size of largemouth/smallmouth bass is 12 inches, except for Parvin Lake, Assunpink Lake and Delaware Lake (Lunker Bass Lakes) and Ryker Lake where it is 15 inches. The daily creel and possession limit for largemouth/smallmouth bass is 5 in total, except for Parvin Lake, Assunpink Lake and Delaware Lake where it is 3, and Ryker Lake where it is 2.

The minimum size limit only on smallmouth bass in Boonton Reservoir is 15 inches with a creel limit of 3.

During the period of April 15 through June 15, the possession of all bass is prohibited and all bass caught shall be immediately returned to the water unharmed.

Striped Bass

It is illegal to take, catch or kill any striped bass from or in any fresh waters of this state by means of a net of any description or by any method other than angling with a hook and line.

It is illegal to possess any striped bass, or parts of a striped bass from which the head and/or tail has been removed (other than while in preparation or being served as food), which is less than the legal minimum size.

The minimum length for striped bass taken from freshwater is 28 inches. The daily creel and possession limit shall be 2.

Striped bass may not be taken or possessed during the following periods:

Striped Bass Closed Seasons

Jan 1-Feb 28—All waters except the Atlantic Ocean from 0-3 miles offshore.

April 1-May 31—Delaware River and tributaries from Trenton Falls downstream to the boundary between New Jersey and Delaware.

The State of Delaware also has a closed season in the Delaware River during this time between the northern boundary of NJ and Delaware, downstream to the south jetty of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal. In this area, the entire Delaware River is under the jurisdiction of the State of Delaware.

Striped Bass Bonus Fish Program

The Striped Bass Bonus Fish Program applies to New Jersey's marine and estuarine waters up to the freshwater fishing license line.

An application for fish possession cards may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed, #10 envelope to NJ FG&W, Striped Bass Fish Program, PO Box 418, Port Republic, NJ 08241. For a list of Striped Bass Bonus Program Check Stations, call 609-748-2020.

Striped Bass Hybrid

The minimum length for striped bass x white bass hybrid is 16 inches and the daily creel and possession limit is 2, except for the Raritan River downstream of the Duke Island Park dam where the minimum length is 28 inches and the daily creel and possession limit is 2.

Walleye

The daily creel and possession limit for walleye is 3, statewide, including the Delaware River. The minimum length is 18 inches. A closed season is in effect from March 1, 2000 to April 30, 2000 except for the Delaware River where there is no closed season.

Other Warmwater/Coolwater Fishes

For **tiger musky** and **muskellunge** the daily possession limit is 2 fish in aggregate, and the minimum length is 30 inches (except for Echo Lake, Newark Watershed and Greenwood Lake where the minimum length is 36 inches and the daily limit is 1 fish; the minimum length for muskellunge in Mountain Lake, Warren Co., is 40 inches). For **northern pike**, the daily possession limit is 2 fish, and the minimum length is 24 inches. For **chain pickerel**, the daily possession limit is 5 fish. There is a minimum length of 15 inches at Lakes Hopatcong, Swartswood and Hammonton only. For **black and white crappie**, the daily possession limit is 10 fish and the minimum length is 8 inches. For **channel catfish** the daily possession limit is 5

fish and the minimum length is 12 inches. For all warmwater fishes not mentioned above (including but not limited to **sunfishes, bullheads, and yellow perch**), the daily possession limit is 25 fish, except for Ryker Lake. (See Conservation Regulations above). For **alewife and blueback herring** the possession limit is 35 fish in aggregate. See special regulations for the Delaware River and Greenwood Lake on Page 20.



A COOPERATIVE EFFORT OF THE
MID-ATLANTIC SEA GRANT NETWORK

Zebra Mussel Alert

The barnacle-like zebra mussel poses a multibillion-dollar threat to North America's industrial, agricultural and municipal water supplies, and it could become a costly nuisance for freshwater shipping, boating, fishing and clamming as well. First found in 1988 in the Great Lakes, this invader could become more widespread than the German carp and cause far more economic damage than the Mediterranean fruit fly.

Public assistance in reporting zebra mussel sightings at new locations is essential to help prevent its spread to other inland lakes and rivers!

How to Identify It

► Zebra mussels look like small clams with a yellowish or brownish "D"-shaped shell, usually with alternating dark and light colored stripes (hence the name "zebra").

► They can be up to two inches long, but most are under an inch. Zebra mussels usually grow in clusters containing numerous individuals (see photo) and are generally found in shallow (6-30 feet), algae-rich water.

► Zebra mussels are the ONLY freshwater mollusk that can firmly attach itself to solid objects—submerged rocks, dock pilings, boat hulls, water intake pipes, etc.

What to Do

► Note the date and precise location where the mussel or its shell(s) were found.

► Take the mussel with you (several, if possible) and store in rubbing alcohol [in any case, DON'T throw it back in the water], and

► IMMEDIATELY call Dr. Eleanor Bochenek, New Jersey Sea Grant Zebra Mussel Project Coordinator, phone (908) 349-1152, or New Jersey Sea Grant headquarters, (908) 672-1300.

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Freshwaters where a license is required to fish with handline, rod and line or long bow and arrow

Listed by county and alphabetically by name of water. A license is required upstream of each location.

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 Route 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

Assiscunk Creek—Required whole length
Bass River State—Fir Bridge on Stage Road 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—Route 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—Route 553 Bridge, Fairton
Muskee Creek—S. side of bridge on Weathersby Road
Nantuxent Creek (Pages Run)—Route 553 north of Frames Corner

Oranoken Creek—Whitecar Mill, North of Beaver Dam
Oyster Creek—None—all saline water
Riggins Ditch—Route 47
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
Peddle 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—Route I-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—Route 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 Road
Swimming River—Swimming River Road Bridge
Wreck Pond Creek—Rt. 71 Bridge

MORRIS COUNTY

License Required on all waters

OCEAN COUNTY

Beaver Dam Creek—Route 88
Cedar Creek—Route 9
Cedar Run—Route 9
Dinner Point Creek—None—all saline water
Double Creek—None—all saline water
Forked River—All branches Route 9
Gunning River—None—all saline water
Jakes Branch—Above Atlantic City Blvd.
Jeffreys Creek—Ocean Gate Road to Ocean Gate
Kettle Creek—Route 549
Lake of the Lilies—Entire lake

Long Swamp Creek—Washington Street Bridge, Toms River
Manahawkin Creek—Dams for Manahawkin W.M.A. 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—Route 9
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 Route 9
Waretown Creek—Route 9
West Creek—Route 9

PASSAIC COUNTY

License Required on All Waters

SALEM COUNTY

Alloway Creek—Route 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—Route I-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

Licensed 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 freshwaters.
2. Names of waters conform to those given on the United States Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Topographic Series Maps.



New and Improved Freshwater Artificial Habitat

By Hugh M. Carberry, Principal Fisheries Biologist

There is nothing new about adding artificial fish habitats to lakes, reservoirs and ponds. Anglers have done this for years to increase catch rates and provide additional habitat for fishes. Over the last decade, the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife has added artificial fish habitats in freshwater lakes as means of increasing angler catch rates. Synthetic materials such as car tires and PVC pipe, and natural materials such as evergreen trees and brush piles were used as the attraction component of these structures. The Division learned a great deal over this period and has developed an artificial habitat that quickly draws in fishes. This structure, known as a pyramid, is retrievable, easy to deploy, shows up nicely on an electronic depth sounder, and is inexpensive to make.

Although structures constructed of synthetic materials such as car tires and PCV pipe draw largemouth bass and black crappies, our observations indicate that structures composed of natural materials are more effective. There are two necessary ingredients for a structure to be effective: a large surface area and the ability to maintain algae and aquatic plant growth. Structures composed of synthetic materials do draw fishes but the aquatic plant and algae growth is usually limited. Natural materials provide more attachment sites for algae growth. In the marine environment, structures composed of car tires and other synthetics are very effective because they quickly become encrusted with barnacles, sponges, and other invertebrate life. Yet in freshwater lakes, growth is limited to algae and aquatic plants.

The pyramid structure is composed of steel rods, cinderblocks, and hardwood branches (see picture). The steel rods are welded together into a four-sided pyramid (three feet wide at the base and four feet high at the apex). At the base of the pyramid, four 16 inch steel rods are welded vertically to accommodate two 8" x 8" x 16" cinder block weights. Once this chassis is completed, branches from hardwood trees such as oaks and maples are attached to this infrastructure via stainless steel wire. The hardwood branches are the attraction component of the

structure. The total cost of materials to construct one pyramid is \$4.00.

There are numerous benefits of the pyramid structures that were lacking in previous designs. Perhaps the greatest benefit is these structures are retrievable. After three years the Division will return to the deployment sites and bring up the structures back to the surface with a grappling hook. Additional hardwood branches will be attached and the structures will be re-deployed.

Another benefit with the pyramid structures is that a large portion of the attraction component is kept off the bottom. With brush piles and evergreen trees, the attraction material rots down and the height of the structure becomes progressively smaller. This reduction in height makes these structures less effective over time. The steel chassis of the pyramid keeps the branches off the bottom which greatly increases the effectiveness.

Another desirable feature of the pyramids is that they show up strongly on electronic fish finders. The reason for this is the hollow core of the structure. As the sound wave from the transducer passes through the structure, it speeds up through the core area. The return signal to the transducer provides a realistic image of the structure on the depth sounders display. The pyramids are lightweight, easily deployed and go down perfectly every time. Divers are not required to deploy these structures, and they are just as easily deployed when the lake is full as when the lake level is low.

Much has been learned about freshwater artificial habitats over the last decade. The Division has replaced former inferior designs with these "new and improved" structures. Our cost-effective pyramids quickly draw freshwater fishes creating exciting, new fishing opportunities.

To obtain more information on lakes and reservoirs where the Division has introduced artificial habitat structures please contact:
North - Lebanon Fisheries Laboratory (908) 236-2118
South - Southern Region Fisheries Office (856) 629-4950



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Fine-tuning Warmwater Fisheries Regulations

by Robert Papsen, Principal Fisheries Biologist

Special regulations for managing trout (coldwater) fisheries have been used successfully for many years, however, lake-specified and special regulations for managing warmwater fisheries is relatively new. Generally anglers prefer quality size fishes to quantity and are willing to accept more restrictive regulations to maintain quality fisheries. Nationwide, lake-specific regulations for bass and especially panfish are becoming more popular.

In recent years, the Division has acquired a number of small to medium size lakes and the Bureau of Lands Management wants to ensure that these newly acquired lakes will not be "fished down" in a relatively short time. In response to this concern and as a result of recent fisheries surveys, two newly acquired Wildlife Management Area (W.M.A.) lakes, Delaware Lake and Ryker Lake, will be managed under special regulations. These regulations are meant to protect and maintain the quality of the panfish and bass fisheries especially in waters that may be susceptible to over-exploitation.

Ryker Lake, a 30-acre impoundment located within the Sparta Mountain W.M.A. in Sussex Co., appears to be low to moderately productive based on water chemistry and relative abundance of fishes. The lake supports a low to moderate abundance of warmwater game and panfish generally dominated by larger individuals, especially the sunfishes.

The population structure indices in Ryker Lake suggest that reproduction is limited and exploitation low. Recruitment, especially for sunfish and largemouth bass, appears to be sporadic and limiting. These populations appear to be vulnerable to over-exploitation. Fisheries consisting of good numbers of quality size sunfish are relatively unusual in the state's smaller public waters. Therefore, the following "conservation regulations" are being implemented at Ryker Lake:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Minimum Size</u>	<u>Daily Limit</u>
Largemouth bass	15 inches	2
Sunfish	7 inches	10 (combined)
Yellow perch	none	10

Delaware Lake, a 36-acre impoundment located within the Columbia Lake W.M.A. in Warren Co., supports a productive fishery dominated by abundant, moderately fast growing largemouth bass and panfish species. Delaware Lake meets the general criteria for inclusion into the "Lunker Bass Program", including anticipated moderate to heavy fishing pressure. Delaware Lake joins Assunpink and Parvin Lakes in this program designed to maintain quality largemouth bass fisheries.

The objectives of this program are to improve the quality of bass angling, to increase the potential for catching trophy bass, to improve the overall bass catch rates including catch and release fishing, and to increase the abundance of large bass, particularly those over 15 inches. The "Lunker Bass" regulations include a 15-inch minimum size and a 3 fish daily creel limit.

The "Lunker Bass Program's" success is evident by reviewing bass tournament results received by our tournament permit program: Assunpink Lake produced 18 to 25 largemouth bass over 5 pounds each year from 1996-1998.

Lake specific regulations are becoming an important management tool in maintaining quality warmwater fisheries, and New Jersey anglers are enjoying the benefits.

Sea Run Brown Trout Program

by Mark Boriek,
Principal Fisheries Biologist

October 1999 marked the third annual stocking of this five-year program. A total of 80,645, eight inch brown trout have been stocked in the reshwater/tidal and brackish portion of the Manasquan River. We anticipate these trout will migrate out to the estuary for one or two years to take advantage of the abundant forage there.

After growing to a size of 2-4 pounds or larger, they will return to the freshwater Manasquan River in the fall of the year. Although it is doubtful the existing water quality will support successful reproduction, the urge to spawn will concentrate these fish in the freshwater portion of the Manasquan River creating an exciting new fishery.

To date there have been nine confirmed catches of sea run browns in freshwater and five in saltwater. The largest, caught in the Manasquan River at Brice Park near Allenwood, Monmouth County, weighed 6 pounds and was 18 inches long. It had the characteristic silvery color and deep body of a sea run trout. Additionally, its clipped adipose fin indicated that it had been stocked in October, 1997.

The Ernest Schwiebert and Jersey Shore Chapters of Trout Unlimited provided financial support and assisted in clipping the left pelvic fin of 1999's fish.

Anglers should report all catches of such trout to 908-236-2118 or 908-637-4173.

SEA RUN BROWN TROUT



The New Jersey Division of Fish Game and Wildlife has stocked brown trout in the lower Manasquan River. Fishermen are asked to report all catches of brown trout in tidal waters. These fish tend to develop a more silvery coloration, masking most of the body spots, after an extended time in salt water.

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

WE NEED YOUR COOPERATION

Call the Pequest State Fish Hatchery (908) 637-4173

or

Lebanon Fisheries Lab (908) 236-2118



NEW JERSEY WILDLIFE VIEWING GUIDE

The NJ Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife is proud to announce the publication of the New Jersey Wildlife Viewing Guide. The publication of the Guide is the culmination of a two year project coordinated by the Division's Endangered and Nongame Species Program to establish a network of viewing sites throughout the state.



The Guide beautifully illustrates the rich natural treasures that few people realize exist in the state. Experience the amazing diversity of New Jersey's wildlife and habitats at 87 of the state's best Wildlife Viewing Areas. The 165 page Guide is full of color photos and illustrations and provides directions to each site and information on site facilities, best viewing seasons and which animals and habitats can be seen.

Unique to the New Jersey Guide is the addition of Wildlife Diversity Tours. In four regions, expanded information is provided on five sites in each region that when experienced through a 2-3 day trip provide a deeper understanding and appreciation of the ecosystems and wildlife found in the region.

Order yours today by using the order form below. Credit card orders can be placed by calling 609/292-9450.

The creation of the Wildlife Viewing Guide and the development of a

Watchable Wildlife Program for New Jersey was made possible through funding from the sale of 'Conserve Wildlife' license plates.

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Personalized Wildlife Plates are also available for \$100.

Previously available by mail only, motorists may now purchase the plates in person at DMV offices regardless of their current expiration dates. Plates can also be purchased from car dealers when buying or leasing a new car.

Wild Places & Open Spaces



The NJ Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife is proud to announce the publication of *Wild Places & Open Spaces-A Wildlife Enthusiasts Guide to Finding and Using Public Open Space in the Garden State*. The publication, designed similar to a road map, offers the outdoors-person a wealth of information on locating and exploring New Jersey's open spaces in a compact and easy-to-read format.

Originally developed as an updated version of the familiar Guide to Wildlife Management Areas, the publication not only contains valuable information on Division wildlife management areas and the variety of wildlife present, but includes state parks, forests and much more! Showcasing a full-color map of New Jersey, more than 700,000 acres of public open space are highlighted with an accompanying wildlife activity grid.

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New Jersey Sixteenth Waterfowl Print & Third in a Series of Historic Boats

The 1999 New Jersey waterfowl stamp design features a pair of red-heads at Barnegat Bay and a baymen's boat called the Garvey. Design artist Richard Clifton is an avid hunter of waterfowl and upland game, which influences his keen appreciation of and life-like depiction of nature's beauty and splendor. He is a native of Milford, Delaware and has designed an impressive number of state waterfowl stamps. This is the sixteenth issue of New Jersey waterfowl stamps and the third in a series of historic boats. The Garvey or “Baymen's Boat” is a unique flat-bottomed craft that traces its origin and name to Jarvis (Gervas) Pharo who settled in the village of West Creek in the early 1700's. He brought with him a design for a “Punt Boat,” a long, narrow, shallow-draft vessel suitable for maneuvering in water often less than two feet deep. In many productive shell fishing beds in Barnegat Bay, the water rarely exceeds two to three feet in depth. Early Garveys were poled, rowed or sailed across the bay.



The traditional Garvey is between 14 and 30 feet long and constructed of native Atlantic White Cedar. This wood is favored for its insect resistance, durability and light weight. Many other types of boats produce a wake, causing bank erosion along shallow creeks and sedge islands. The design of Garveys allows for the wakes to be dissipated with a noticeably reduced force of wave action.

Generations of Baymen utilized this stable workboat for tonging and raking clams, oystering, crabbing and fishing. Over the years local boat builders made modifications and improvements on the original Garvey. Few of their designs and plans have ever been drawn out on paper. Fathers passed the traditional construction secrets and refinements to their sons. Today only a few Garvey builders still exist. The Garvey has evolved into a wide, flat-bottomed and very stable utility craft.

New Jersey, through an act of the State Legislature, began annually requiring waterfowl stamps in 1984. The program is administered by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife for the purpose of purchasing wetlands for waterfowl habitat. Proceeds from the sale of New Jersey's duck stamps and prints total over \$3,500,000, all to acquire wetlands for waterfowl habitat and public use. To date, over 11,000 acres of waterfowl habitat have been purchased or donated.

Limited Edition, signed and numbered prints of the Sixteenth New Jersey Waterfowl stamp may be purchased from art dealers. To find the dealer nearest you, contact SPORT'EN ART, Sullivan, IL 61951, telephone (toll-free) 1-800-382-5723.

Each print includes a resident and non-resident stamp and sells for \$170.00. Stamps without prints can be purchased directly from the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife.