

# 2005 Summary of New Jersey Freshwater Fishing Laws

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

## LICENSES AND STAMPS

Persons 16 and over must have a valid license to fish the fresh waters of New Jersey with a handline, rod and line or bow and arrow. This includes privately owned lakes and other waters.

For residents 70 and over, a driver's license or other acceptable proof of age containing date of birth and physical description will serve as the actual fishing license.

No person between the ages of 16 and 69, inclusive, shall take, attempt to take, possess or kill trout without a valid fishing license and trout stamp. For age 70 and over, no trout stamp is required.

Licenses and trout stamps are valid from date of purchase through Dec. 31.

A person must reside within the state for at least six months to obtain a resident license.

A fishing license must be worn in a conspicuous place on the outer clothing.

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 their New Jersey licenses revoked for two years.

## REPLACEMENT OF LOST LICENSES

Duplicate fishing licenses are issued at all Fish and Wildlife law enforcement regional offices, Pequest Natural Resource Education Center, and the Trenton office. Each licensee is provided with a license and a receipt. Be sure to keep the receipt separate from the license; if the actual license is lost, take the receipt to any of the above offices for a \$2 replacement. Stamps cannot be replaced. If the receipt is lost, return to the location from which the license was purchased to complete a form documenting the original sale. This form may be mailed or brought to one of the Fish and Wildlife offices listed above for a replacement.

## SPECIAL LICENSES

### 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.

### Licenses for National Guard Members

Eligible National Guard personnel are entitled to free licenses, permits, and stamps. Further information can be obtained by writing to: NJ Department of Military/Veteran Affairs, 101 Eggert Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648.

### Disabled Veterans' Licenses & Permits

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

For the purposes of this program, the legislation defines Disabled Veterans as: "...any resident of New Jersey who has been honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active service in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and who has been declared by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, or its successor, to have a service-connected disability of any degree..."

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.

Disabled Veteran fishing licenses are available at Fish and Wildlife's Trenton office, as well as regional offices plus Pequest and Nacote Creek. This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. For questions, call (609) 292-2965.

### Licenses for the Blind

Residents afflicted with total blindness may obtain a free license from Fish and Wildlife's Trenton office.

## 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.
- 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.
- On board containers in 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 freshwaters. See exception for Delaware River, page 14.
- Possess or use any fishing contrivance with more than nine hooks or more than three burrs

of three hooks. See exception for Delaware River, page 14. There is no limit to the number of rods used.

- Use set lines in waters inhabited by pickerel, walleye, bass or trout.
- Use cast nets in freshwater lakes or trout stocked waters. See baitfish regulations, page 7 for other exclusions.
- Foul hook largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, striped bass, chain pickerel, northern pike, muskellunge, walleye, alewife and blueback herring (anadromous and landlocked), brook trout, brown trout, lake trout and rainbow trout or any of the hybrids thereof. Any fish listed above 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.

### Bow and Arrow Fishing

Any species of fish, *except* brook, brown, lake or rainbow trout, landlocked Atlantic salmon, largemouth or smallmouth bass, striped bass or any of its hybrids, pickerel, northern pike, walleye, muskellunge or any of its hybrids, may be taken at any time by use of a bow and arrow with line attached by the holder of a valid fishing license. See regulations for the Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, p.14.

### 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

Permitted when ice is present, otherwise open water regulations are in effect. See separate regulations for trout-stocked waters and Greenwood Lake.

No more than five devices may be used for taking fish. 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 jiggging lure with not more than

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(continued from page 6)

- one burr of three hooks that measure not more than 1/2-inch from point to point;
3. An artificial jiggging lure with not more than three single hooks measuring not more than 1/2 inch from point to shaft;
  4. An artificial jiggging 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 jiggging lures. All devices that are not hand-held must bear the name and address of the user and cannot be left unattended.

Carp and suckers may be taken with net under the ice. Suckers may be taken through the ice by means of hooks, no more than 3, directly attached to a rigid handle between December 1 and March 1.

### Pollution, Draining Waters and Dams

It is unlawful to pollute waters of the state, directly or indirectly. It is illegal to draw down waters or place screens in water without permission of Fish and Wildlife. It is illegal to construct a dam in any water 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 877-WARNDEP or the Operation Game Thief Line (800) 222-0456.

### Revocation

Anyone convicted of a second violation of fish or wildlife laws in this or another state within a period of five years will have their New Jersey licenses revoked for two years.

### Sale of Fish

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

### Stocking Fish

A permit is required to stock fish or fish eggs into any water which has an inlet or outlet. It is ILLEGAL to stock carp or koi into any such waters at any time. An application may be obtained by contacting the Lebanon Field Office at (908) 236-2118.

### Striped Bass

Striped bass may be taken only by angling with a hook and line. See chart on page 13. 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.

### Tagging Fish

No person may tag or mark and release a fish without first obtaining a special permit issued by Fish and Wildlife. Fish stocking permits will be accepted as an alternative to this permit. Contact the Lebanon Field Office at (908) 236-2118 for application information.

### Waste of Fish

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

### 2005 BAITFISH REGULATIONS

This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. All persons are reminded that the statutes (Title 23), code and regulations are the legal authorities. †Red text in regulations indicates a change for this year. See separate regulations for Delaware River (p. 14). For marine waters, see Marine Issue of *NJ Fish & Wildlife Digest*.

The following are defined as baitfish by New Jersey Statute: alewife (anadromous and land-locked forms), blueback herring, golden shiner, banded killifish, mummichog, spotfin killifish, rainwater killifish, American brook lamprey, fathead minnow, bluntnose minnow, stonecat, tadpole madtom, margined madtom, all shiners, daces, minnows, chubs and the American eel. †In the Delaware River between New Jersey and Pennsylvania, alewife and blueback herring (anadromous and land-locked forms) are regulated as food fish with a one-day possession limit of 35 in aggregate. (See separate regulations for Boundary Waters, p. 14)

|  |                         |  |                                 |
|--|-------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Open Year Round<br>Exception: season closed<br>March 24 thru June 15 on trout stocked<br>waters and special regulation trout areas | statewide (freshwaters) | No minimum size<br>except 6" for Am. eel | 35 per day,<br>species combined |
|--|-------------------------|--|---------------------------------|

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

| Means of Take (gear) | Gear Description   |
|----------------------|--|
| Seine                | Not over 50 feet long in ponds & lakes over 100 acres; in all other waters not over 30 feet in length, or half the width of the stream at point of use, whichever is less.<br><b>Exception:</b> 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" in length with a funnel mouth no greater than 2" in diameter.  |
| Umbrella net         | No greater than 3.5 feet square.   |
| Dip net              | Not more than 24" 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        | <b>Maximum of 9 single hooks or 3 hooks with 3 burrs per contrivance on all waters except the Delaware River where only 3 single hooks are permitted.</b>  |

### 2005 TURTLE AND FROG REGULATIONS

|                             |   |           |              |                        |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------|--------------|------------------------|
| Snapping turtle             | January 1 thru April 30 and<br>June 16 thru December 31 | statewide | No min. size | 3 per day              |
| Bull frog and<br>green frog | January 1 thru March 31 and<br>July 1 thru December 31  | statewide | No min. size | 15 per day<br>combined |

#### Means of Take

Any person with a valid fishing license or those entitled to fish without a license may take snapping turtles, bull frogs, and green frogs by means of spears, hooks, dip nets not more than 24" in diameter, traps or by hand. Snapping turtles may not be taken with a gun or bow and arrow. Snapping turtles, bull frogs, and green frogs may be taken from in numbers greater than the daily limit under a special permit issued by Fish & Wildlife at its discretion. Contact (609) 292-9450 for application information.

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## REGULATIONS

# Trout Fishing Regulations—2005

### GENERAL TROUT REGULATIONS (FOR BROOK, BROWN & RAINBOW TROUT AND HYBRIDS THEREOF)

| SEASON                        | MIN. SIZE  | DAILY LIMIT | EXCEPTIONS  |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------|---|
| January 1—March 20            | 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).<br>2) Special regulation areas (wild trout streams, year round & seasonal trout conservation areas, trophy & holdover trout lakes).<br>3) Lake Hopatcong, Prospertown Lake, Manasquan Res., Farrington Lake, Pompton Lake, Lake Shenandoah and Spruce Run Res.—fishing is permitted during the period March 21 to April 9 at 8 a.m. All trout caught during this period must immediately be released.<br>4) Greenwood Lake & Delaware River—see separate regulations for Boundary Waters, p. 14. |
| March 21 to April 9 at 8 a.m. | Fishing prohibited on all waters listed for stocking |             |   |
| April 9 at 8 a.m.—May 31      | 7 inches   | 6           |   |
| June 1—December 31            | 7 inches   | 4           |   |

### LAKE TROUT REGULATIONS

| SEASON         | MIN. SIZE | DAILY LIMIT | EXCEPTIONS   |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|--|
| Jan. 1—Dec. 31 | 15 inches | 2           | Trophy Trout Lakes—Round Valley Reservoir, Merrill Creek Reservoir |

### TROUT STOCKED WATERS

Consult pages 10 and 11 for a complete list of trout stocked waters that are open on the day of stocking from 8 a.m., April 9, 2005 and through the spring stocking season.

### TROUT STOCKED WATERS CLOSED ON IN-SEASON SPRING STOCKING DATES

Waters listed below are 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.  
**There are no closures for fall stocking.**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>MONDAYS</b><br>April 11, 18, 25<br>May 2, 9, 16, 23     | <u>Manasquan River</u> - Rt. 9 bridge downstream to Bennetts bridge, Manasquan WMA<br><u>Metedeconk River, N/Br.</u> - Aldrich Rd. bridge to Ridge Ave.<br><u>Metedeconk River, S/Br.</u> - Bennetts Mill dam to twin wooden foot bridge, opposite Lake Park Blvd. on South Lake Drive, Lakewood<br><u>Rockaway River</u> - Longwood Lake dam (Jefferson Twp) to Jersey City Reservoir in Boonton<br><u>Toms River</u> - Rt. 528, Holmansville, to confluence with Maple Root Branch, and Rt. 70 bridge to Rt. 571 bridge (Exception: The section regulated as a year-round trout conservation area; see below.)<br><u>Wallkill River</u> - Lake Mohawk dam to Rt. 23, Hamburg |
| <b>TUESDAYS</b><br>April 12, 19, 26<br>May 3, 10, 17, 24   | <u>Pohatcong Creek</u> - Rt. 31 to Delaware River<br><u>Raritan River, S/Br.</u> - Budd Lake dam to junction with N/Br. Raritan River (Exception: The sections regulated as Year-Round Trout Conservation areas; see below)  |
| <b>WEDNESDAYS</b><br>April 13, 20, 27<br>May 4, 11, 18, 25 | <u>Raritan River, N/Br.</u> - Peapack Rd. bridge in Far Hills to junction with S/Br. Raritan River   |
| <b>THURSDAYS</b><br>April 14, 21, 28<br>May 5, 12, 19, 26  | <u>Black River</u> - Rt. 206, Chester to the posted Black River Fish & Game Club property at the lower end of Hacklebarney State Park<br><u>Paulinskill River, and E/Br. and W/Br.</u> - Limecrest RR spur bridge on E/Br., Sparta Twp., and Warbasse Jct. Rd. (Rt. 663) on W/Br, Lafayette Twp., to Columbia Lake (Exception: The section of the E/Br. regulated as a year round Trout Conservation Area.)<br><u>Ramapo River</u> - State line to Pompton Lake (including Potash Lake)  |
| <b>FRIDAYS</b><br>April 15, 22, 29<br>May 6, 13, 20, 27    | <u>Big Flat Brook</u> - 100 ft. above Steam Mill bridge on Crigger Rd. in Stokes State Forest to Delaware River<br><u>Musconetcong River</u> - Lake Hopatcong dam to Delaware River including all mainstream impoundments except for Lake Musconetcong<br><u>Pequest River</u> - source downstream to Delaware River<br><u>Wanaque River</u> - Greenwood Lake dam to junction with Pequannock River, excluding Wanaque Reservoir, Monksville Reservoir and Lake Inez   |

### WILD TROUT STREAMS

| SEASON   | MIN. SIZE            | DAILY LIMIT | RESTRICTIONS (in effect year round)   |
|--|----------------------|-------------|---|
| April 9 at 8 a.m.—Sept. 15                     | 7 inches (see # 3)   | 2           | 1) Only artificial lures may be used.<br>2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited.<br>3) The minimum size for brown trout in Van Campens Brook & Pequannock River is 12 inches. |
| Jan. 1 to April 9 at 8 a.m. & Sept. 16—Dec. 31 | Catch & Release Only |             |   |

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <u>Bear Creek</u> (Southtown)<br><u>Bear Swamp Brook</u> (Mahwah)<br><u>Black Brook</u> (Clinton WMA)<br><u>Burnett Brook</u> (Ralston)<br><u>Cold Brook</u> (Oldwick)<br><u>Dark Moon Brook</u> (Johnsonburg)<br><u>Dunnfield Creek</u> (Del. Water Gap)<br><u>Flanders Brook</u> (Flanders)<br><u>Hances Brook</u> (Penwell)<br><u>Hickory Run</u> (Califon)<br><u>India Brook</u> (source to Mountainside Ave., Mendham) | <u>Indian Grove Brook</u> (Bernardville)<br><u>Jackson Brook</u> (source to Hedden Park Lake, Mine Hill Twp.)<br><u>Ledgewood Brook</u> (Ledgewood)<br><u>Little York Brook</u> (Little York)<br><u>Lomerson Brook</u> (Pottersville)<br><u>Merrill Creek</u> (Stewartville)<br><u>Mill Brook</u> (Montague)<br><u>N/Br. Rockaway Creek</u> (Mountainville)<br><u>Parker Brook</u> (Stokes S.F.)<br><u>Passaic River</u> (source to Rt. 202, Bernardville) | <u>Pequannock River</u> (Newark, Watershed, Oak Ridge Rd. bridge downstream to railroad bridge immediately upstream of Charlottesville Res.)<br><u>Rhineharts Brook</u> (Hacklebarney S.P.)<br><u>Rocky Run</u> (Clinton Twp.)<br><u>Saddle River</u> (state line to Lake St., Upper Saddle River)<br><u>Stephensburg Creek</u> (Stephensburg)<br><u>Stony Brook</u> (Stokes S.F.)<br><u>Stony Brook</u> (Washington Twp., Morris Co.) | <u>Tetertown Brook</u> (Tetertown)<br><u>Trout Brook</u> (Hacklebarney S.P.)<br><u>Turkey Brook</u> (Mt. Olive)<br><u>Van Campens Brook</u> (Delaware Water Gap Nat'l Recreation Area)<br><u>West Brook</u> (source downstream to Windbeam Club property)<br><u>Whippany River</u> (source to Tingley Rd., Mendham Twp.)<br><u>Willoughby Brook</u> (Clinton Twp.) |
|---|--|--|--|

*(continued on next page)*

## REGULATIONS

# Trout Fishing Regulations—2005

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| YEAR ROUND TROUT CONSERVATION AREAS  |   |   |  |             |
|--|---|---|--|-------------|
| SEASON   | MIN. SIZE   | DAILY LIMIT   | RESTRICTIONS (in effect year round)  |             |
| January 1—March 20   | 15 inches   | 1   | 1) Only artificial lures may be used.<br>2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited.<br>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 21 to April 9 at 8 a.m.  | Catch & Release Only  |   |  |             |
| April 9 at 8 a.m.—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)<br>Raritan River, S/Br. (Hunterdon County) - the stretch of water known as the Ken Lockwood Gorge, a distance of approximately 2 miles<br>Raritan River, S/Br. (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)<br>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—March 20   | 15 inches   | 1   | 1) Only artificial lures may be used.<br>2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited.<br>3) Pequest River—fishing is not permitted during the first six in-season stocking closure dates. (See Trout Stocked Waters with Closed In-Season Stocking dates, p. 8). Fishing is permitted during the last in-season stocking closure date (May 27), but all trout caught between 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. must be immediately released.  |             |
| March 21—April 8   | Catch & Release Only  |   |  |             |
| April 9 (12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m.)   | Fishing Prohibited  |   |  |             |
| April 9 at 8 a.m.—May 22<br>Gear restrictions do not apply   | 7 inches  | 6   |  |             |
| May 23—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)<br>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)<br>Musconetcong River (Hunterdon/Warren Counties) - Penwell Road bridge downstream to the Point Mtn. Road bridge, a distance of approx. 1.2 miles  |   |   |  |             |
| FLY FISHING AREAS  |   |   |  |             |
| SEASON   | MIN. SIZE   | DAILY LIMIT   | RESTRICTIONS   |             |
| January 1—March 20   | 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.<br>2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited.<br>3) Fishing is not permitted during the in-season stocking closures. (See Trout Stocked Waters with Closed In-Season Stocking dates, p. 8). |             |
| March 21 to April 9 at 8 a.m.  | Fishing not permitted   |   |  |             |
| April 9 at 8 a.m. to April 18 at 5 a.m.<br>Gear restrictions do not apply except on Blewett Tract  | 7 inches  | 6   |  |             |
| April 18 at 5 a.m.—May 31  | 7 inches  | 6   |  |             |
| June 1—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<br>Blewett Tract (Sussex County) - a 0.5 mile portion on the Big Flat Brook clearly defined by markers, which extends from the Three Bridges Rd. to a point upstream of the jct. of the Big Flat Brook and Little Flat Brook.  |   |   |  |             |
| TROPHY TROUT LAKES   |   |   |  |             |
| LOCATIONS  | SPECIES   | SEASON  | MIN. SIZE  | DAILY LIMIT |
| Merrill Creek Reservoir  | brown & rainbow trout   | January 1—December 31   | 15 inches  | 2           |
|  | lake trout  | January 1—September 15 and December 1—December 31                                   | 15 inches  | 2           |
| Round Valley Reservoir   | brown & rainbow trout   | January 1—December 31   | 15 inches  | 2           |
|  | lake trout  | January 1—September 15 and December 1—December 31                                   | 20 inches  | 1           |
| HOLDOVER TROUT LAKES   |   |   |  |             |
| LOCATIONS  | SPECIES   | SEASON  | MIN. SIZE  | DAILY LIMIT |
| Clinton Reservoir<br>Lake Aeroflex<br>Lake Wawayanda<br>Monksville Reservoir<br>Shepherd Lake<br>Swartwood Lake<br>White Lake (Warren Co.)   | brook, brown, rainbow trout and hybrids thereof (see separate regs. for lake trout) | January 1—March 20  | 7 inches   | 2           |
|  |   | March 21 to April 9 at 8 a.m.   | Catch & Release Only   |             |
|  |   | April 9 at 8 a.m.—May 31  | 7 inches   | 4           |
|  |   | June 1—December 31  | 7 inches   | 2           |
| BOUNDARY WATERS  |   |   |  |             |
| LOCATIONS  | SPECIES   | SEASON  | MIN. SIZE  | DAILY LIMIT |
| Delaware River   | all trout species   | April 16—September 30<br>(trout caught at other times must be immediately released) | no min. size   | 5           |
| Greenwood Lake   | all trout species   | January 1—December 31   | no min. size   | 3           |

# 2005 General Trout Fishing Information

- **Opening day of trout season: April 9, 2005 at 8 a.m.**
- No person between the ages of 16 and 69, inclusive, shall take, attempt to take, possess or kill trout without a valid fishing license and trout stamp.
- It is illegal to fish for *any* species of fish in ponds, lakes or sections of streams which are stocked with trout, from 11:59 p.m. March 20, 2005 to 8 a.m. April 9, 2005.

**Exceptions:** Lake Hopatcong, Prospertown Lake, Manasquan Reservoir, Farrington Lake, Pompton Lake, Lake Shenandoah and Spruce Run Reservoir are open year round to fishing. However, all trout caught between 12:01 a.m. March 21 and 8 a.m. on April 9 must be released immediately. Seasonal or year round trout conservation areas

and designated holdover trout lakes are also open to fishing but are only catch-and-release for trout. Fishing is not permitted on seasonal trout conservation areas from 12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m. on April 9, 2005.

- Only one creel limit of trout may be in possession. Once the creel is reached trout may be caught if immediately returned to the water unharmed.
- Separate stringers or buckets must be used for each angler
- Containers in boats may contain 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.

## Trout Stocked Waters with No In-Season Closures

The waters listed below are open during the entire Spring in-season stocking. Note: the number in parentheses indicates the anticipated number of in-season stockings (from April 9 through May 27). A zero indicates the water will only be stocked pre-season (the three week period preceding opening day). For details on what's being stocked and when, call the Trout Hotline (Spring stocking: April, May; Fall stocking: October; Winter stocking: November–January) at (609) 633-6765. This recorded message is updated weekly. Or visit our Web site at [www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com).

### 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—Lake St. to Dunkerhook Rd., Fairlawn (5)  
Scarlet Oak Pond—Mahwah (0)  
Tenakill Creek—Closter, entire length (3)

Whites Pond—Waldwick (4)

### Burlington County

Crystal Lake—Willingboro (4)  
Laurel Pond—Mt. Laurel (3)  
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—East Amwell (3)  
Beaver Brook—Clinton Twp., entire length (2)  
Capoolong Creek—Pittstown, entire length (5)  
Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal—Bulls Island to Hunterdon/Mercer County line (6)  
Hakihokake Creek—Holland Twp., entire length (2)  
Lockatong Creek—Kingwood Twp., entire length (5)  
Mulhockaway Creek—Pattensburg, source to Spruce Run Reservoir (5)  
Neshanic River—Kuhl Road to Hunterdon County Route 514 (2)  
Nishisakawick Creek—Frenchtown/Everittstown, entire length (2)  
Rockaway Creek—Readington Twp., entire length (4)  
Rockaway Creek, S. Br.—Lebanon to Whitehouse, entire length (5)  
Round Valley Reservoir—Clinton Twp. (3)  
Sidney Brook—Grandin, entire length (1)  
Spring Mills Brook—Spring Mills, entire length (2)  
Spruce Run—Glen Gardner and Lebanon Twp., entire length (5)  
Spruce Run Reservoir—Clinton (3)  
Wickecheoke Creek—Covered Bridge, Rt. 604, 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 Twp. (3)  
Delaware-Raritan Canal—Mulberry St., Trenton to Alexander St., Princeton (4)

## Motor Boat Registration

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.

### STATE POLICE TROOP "F" MARINE LAW ENFORCEMENT STATIONS

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

(continued on page 9)

## REGULATIONS

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 Papaianni—Edison (0)  
Lawrence Brook—Dam at Farrington Lake to 2nd  
RR Bridge (Raritan Railroad) below Main St.,  
Milltown (4)  
Roosevelt Park Pond—Edison Twp. (3)

### Monmouth County

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 Twp. (3)  
*(continued from page 8)*  
Mingamahone Brook—Farmingdale, Hurley Pond  
Road to Manasquan River (5)  
Mohawk Pond—Red Bank (4)  
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 Twp. (2)

### Morris County

Beaver Brook—Rockaway, entire length (3)  
Burnham Park Pond—Morristown (4)  
Drakes Brook—Flanders, entire length (3)  
Hibernia Brook—Hibernia, entire length (5)  
India Brook—Mountainside Ave. to Rt. 24,  
Ralston (5)  
Lake Hopatcong—Lake Hopatcong (3)  
Lake Musconetcong—Netcong (3)  
Mt. Hope Pond—Mt. Hope (3)  
Passaic River—White Bridge to Rt. 24,  
Chatham Borough (4)  
Pequannock River—(See Passaic Co.)  
Pompton River—Pequannock Twp.  
(see Passaic Co.) (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)  
Pohatcong Lake—Tuckerton (4)  
Prospertown Lake—Prospertown (3)

### Passaic County

Barbours Pond—West Paterson (3)  
Clinton Reservoir—Newark Watershed (3)

**Green Turtle Pond**—Wanaque Wildlife Mgt.  
Area, Hewitt (3)  
Oldham Pond—North Haledon (3)  
Pequannock River—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 Sally's Pond,  
Ringwood Park (5)  
Shepherd Lake—Ringwood State Park (3)

### Salem County

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

### Somerset County

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

### Sussex County

Alms House Pond—Myrtle Grove, Hampton Twp. (3)  
Andover Junction Brook—Andover, entire length (2)  
Biers Kill—Shaytown, entire length (2)  
Big Flat Brook, Upper—Saw Mill Pond, High  
Point State Park to 100 ft. above Steam Mill  
Bridge on Crigger Road, Stokes St. Forest (4)  
Blue Mountain Lake—Delaware Water Gap  
Nat'l Recreation Area (3)  
Canistear Reservoir—Newark Watershed (3)  
Clove River—Mt. Salem Rd. **to jct. with  
Papakating Creek** (5)  
Cranberry Lake—Byram Twp. (3)  
Culvers Creek—Frankford Twp., entire length (5)  
Dry Brook—Branchville, entire length (3)  
Franklin Pond Creek—Hamburg Mtn. 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 Twp., entire length (5)  
Neldon Brook—Swartswood, entire length (2)  
Papakating Creek—Plains Road bridge to Route  
565, Lewisburg (2)  
Papakating Creek, W. Br.—Libertyville, entire  
length (2)  
Pond Brook—Middleville, entire length (5)  
Roy Spring Brook—Stillwater, entire length (1)  
Saw Mill Pond—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 Creek—Vernon, entire length (0)  
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)  
Passaic River—(See Morris Co.)  
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 Twp. (2)  
Jacksonburg Creek—Jacksonburg, entire length (2)  
Lopatcong Creek—Route 519 to South Main  
Street, Phillipsburg (5)  
Merrill Creek Reservoir—Stewartsville (1)  
Mountain Lake—Buttville (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 Lake—Hardwick (1)









**This DIGEST  
is available in  
enlarged format  
for the visually  
impaired.**

**Write to:  
New Jersey Division  
of Fish & Wildlife  
Large Format Fishing Digest  
PO Box 400  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0400**

## REGULATIONS

# 2005 Warmwater and Coolwater Freshwater Fishing Regulations




**For the purpose of trout stocking, several waterways are closed to fishing for all species from 12:01 a.m. March 21 to 8 a.m. April 9, 2005. Refer to pages 8, 9 and 10 for complete lists and exceptions.**

|  | SEASON  | LOCATION  | MINIMUM SIZE                                 | DAILY LIMIT |
|--|---|---|--|-------------|
| <b>Largemouth &amp; Smallmouth Bass</b>  |   |   |  |             |
| <br>Largemouth Bass<br><br><br>Smallmouth Bass                                     | Jan. 1–April 14   | Statewide<br>(exceptions below)   | 12"  | 5 Combined  |
|  | April 15–June 15<br>Catch & Release Only<br>(all waters)        | Lunker Bass Lakes:<br>(Assunpink, Parvin,<br>Delaware Lakes, Splitrock Reservoir,<br><b>Boonton Reservoir</b> ) | 15"  | 3 Combined  |
|  | June 16, 2005–<br>April 14, 2006                                | Conservation Regulations:<br>Ryker Lake<br><br>Delaware River:<br>See Boundary Waters, p. 14                    | 15"  | 2 Combined  |
| <b>Northern Pike, Tiger Musky, Muskellunge</b>   |   |   |  |             |
| <br>Northern Pike<br><br><br>Muskellunge  | Open Year Round   | Statewide<br>exceptions below   | 24" Northern pike                            | 2           |
|  |   |   | 30" Tiger Musky &<br>Muskellunge             | 2 Combined  |
|  |   | Trophy Musky Waters:<br>Mountain & Echo Lake Reservoir  | 40" Tiger Musky &<br>Muskellunge             | 1 Combined  |
|  |   | Conservation Regulations:<br>Lake Hopatcong, Monksville<br>Reservoir, Mercer Lake,<br><b>Greenwood Lake</b>     | 36" Tiger Musky &<br>Muskellunge             |             |
| <b>Chain Pickerel</b>  |   |   |  |             |
| <br>Chain Pickerel  | Open Year Round   | Statewide<br>(exceptions below)   | No minimum size                              | 5           |
|  |   | Special Regulation<br>(Lake Hopatcong, Swartswood<br>Lake, Hammonton Lake)                                      | 15"  |             |
| <b>Walleye</b>   |   |   |  |             |
| <br>Walleye   | Jan. 1–Feb 28   | Statewide   | 18"  | 3           |
|  | March 1–April 30<br>Catch & Release Only<br>May 1–Feb. 28, 2006 |   |  |             |
| <b>Striped Bass (freshwater only)</b> <span style="color: red;">Striped bass regulations are subject to change. Consult our Web site <a href="http://www.njfishandwildlife.com">www.njfishandwildlife.com</a> and the news media for updates.</span> |   |   |  |             |
| <br>Striped Bass  | March 1–Dec 31  | Statewide<br>(exceptions: Delaware River,<br>See Boundary Waters, p. 14)  | Greater or equal to 24"<br>but less than 28" | 1           |
|  |   |   | 34" or greater                               | 1           |
| <b>Hybrid Striped Bass</b> <span style="color: red;">Striped bass regulations are subject to change. Consult our Web site <a href="http://www.njfishandwildlife.com">www.njfishandwildlife.com</a> and the news media for updates.</span>            |   |   |  |             |
| <br>Hybrid Striped Bass   | Open Year Round   | Statewide<br>(exceptions below)   | 16"  | 2           |
|  | March 1–Dec 31  | Raritan River downstream<br>of Duke Island Park dam<br>(for Delaware River, see p. 14)                          | Greater or equal to 24"<br>but less than 28" | 1           |
|  |   |   | 34" or greater                               | 1           |

*(continued on next page)*

## REGULATIONS

# 2005 Warmwater and Coolwater Freshwater Fishing Regulations

|   | SEASON  | LOCATION                                | MINIMUM SIZE                     | DAILY LIMIT |
|---|---|---|----------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>American Shad</b>  |   |   |                                  |             |
| <br>American Shad   | Open Year Round   | Statewide                               | No minimum size                  | 6           |
| <b>Channel Catfish</b>  |   |   |                                  |             |
| <br>Channel Catfish   | Open Year Round   | Statewide                               | 12"                              | 5           |
| <b>Crappie (Black &amp; White)</b>  |   |   |                                  |             |
| <br>Crappie  | Open Year Round   | Statewide                               | 8"                               | 10 Combined |
| <b>Other Fish Species</b> (rock bass, white bass, white perch, yellow perch, sunfish, bullheads, white catfish, suckers, carp, bowfin, redbin pickerel) |   |   |                                  |             |
|   | Open Year Round   | Statewide<br>(exceptions below)         | No minimum size                  | 25 Combined |
|   |   | Conservation Regulation                 | Sunfish 7"                       | 10 Combined |
|   |   | Ryker Lake                              | Yellow Perch no min. size        | 10          |
|   |   | Conservation Regulation<br>Rainbow Lake | Sunfish 7"                       | 10 Combined |
| <b>Freshwater Baitfish</b> (See page 7 for complete description of gear types and restrictions)   |   |   |                                  |             |
|   | Open Year Round (except trout stocked waters, see pages 8–11) | Statewide                               | No Minimum except 6" for Am. eel | 35 Combined |

Baitfish Species: alewife (anadromous and land-locked forms), blueback herring, golden shiner, banded killifish, mummichog, spotfin killifish, rainwater killifish, American brook lamprey, fathead minnow, bluntnose minnow, stonecat, tadpole madtom, margined madtom, all shiners, daces, minnows and American eel.

## Water Supply Reservoirs Open to Fishing By Permit Only

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

\*Fee encompasses all three waterbodies. Permit valid from April 1 to November 30.



## REGULATIONS

# 2005 Freshwater Fishing Boundary Waters Season and Creel Limits

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

### LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICES

**Northern Region:** Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren counties . . . . . (908) 735-8240  
**Central Region:** Burlington, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean counties . . . . . (609) 259-2120  
**Southern Region:** Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem counties . . . . . (856) 629-0555  
**Operation Game Thief.** . . . . . (800) 222-0456

### Delaware River between New Jersey and Pennsylvania

Angling may be done with no more than 2 rods, each with 1 line, or 2 handlines, or 1 of each. Not more than 3 single hooks or 3 hooks of 3 burrs each may be used per line. New Jersey or Pennsylvania fishing licenses are recognized from shoreline to shoreline. 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. Pennsylvania residents fishing from the New Jersey shore may have either a NJ nonresident license or a PA resident license. There is a 6 fish daily creel limit on American shad. Pennsylvania also enforces a 6 inch minimum and an 8 inch maximum on American eel.  
 Hook and line fishermen are hereby restricted to the use of non-offset circle hooks while fishing with any natural bait during the months of April and May downstream of the Calhoun St. bridge to the Commodore Barry Bridge. This restriction shall apply only to hooks of size 2 and larger and shall not apply to hooks of smaller sizes (such as those normally used for white perch fishing).  
 Spears (not mechanically propelled) and bow and arrows may be used to take shad, eels, carp, suckers, herring and bullheads by properly licensed anglers except within 825 ft. of an eel weir.

| SPECIES   | OPEN SEASONS<br>(BOTH DATES INCL.)  | MINIMUM LENGTH  | DAILY BAG LIMIT<br>(POSSESSION LIMIT--<br>1 DAY'S CATCH) |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Trout   | April 16–Sept. 30                   | no minimum  | 5  |
| Walleye   | no closed season                    | 18"   | 3  |
| Chain pickerel  | no closed season                    | 12"   | 5  |
| Muskellunge & hybrids   | no closed season                    | 30"   | 2  |
| N. Pike   | no closed season                    | 24"   | 2  |
| Largemouth & Smallmouth bass                                    | Jan. 1–April 15 and June 11–Dec. 31 | 12"   | 5 combined   |
|   | April 16–June 10                    | Catch & Release ONLY  | Catch & Release ONLY                                     |
| Striped bass** & hybrids** upstream of Calhoun St. Bridge;      | March 1–Dec. 31                     | Greater than or equal to 24" but less than 28" AND 34" or greater | 1  |
| Striped bass** & hybrids** Downstream of Calhoun St. Bridge     | March 1–31 & June 1–Dec. 31         |   | AND  |
| Short-nose sturgeon   | illegal to take—endangered species  |   |  |
| Atlantic sturgeon   | illegal to take                     |   |  |
| Alewife and Blueback Herring (Anadromous and land-locked forms) | no closed season                    | no minimum  | 35 combined  |
| American shad   | no closed season                    | no minimum  | 6  |
| Hickory shad  | closed season                       | -   | None   |
| All other freshwater species                                    | no closed season                    | no minimum  |  |
| Baitfish* (see Alewife & Blueback above)                        | no closed season                    | no minimum  | 50   |

\*Baitfish may be taken and possessed for personal use and are not to be bartered or sold. The possession limit for baitfish in the Delaware River between New Jersey and Pennsylvania is 50 per day. Alewife and blueback herring are regulated as food fish with a one-day possession limit of 35 in aggregate in the Delaware River between New Jersey and Pennsylvania. It is unlawful to use a net of any kind between the hours of 2 p.m. Saturday through Sunday. Eel weirs for catching carp, catfish, eels and suckers may be operated under a permit from NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife at any time of the year and any time of day.  
 \*\*Striped bass regulations are subject to change. Consult our Web site [www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com) and the news media for updates.

### Greenwood Lake

New York and New Jersey licenses are legal anywhere on the lake from a boat or on ice. Fishing is permitted 24 hours a day. Bow and arrow fishing for all carp, suckers, herring, catfish and eels is permitted. Ice fishermen may not use more than 5 tip-ups and 2 hand held devices. All ice fishing devices that are not hand held must be plainly marked with the name and address of the angler.

| SPECIES                                    | OPEN SEASONS<br>(BOTH DATES INCLUDED)               | MINIMUM LENGTH<br>(BOTH DATES INCLUDED) | DAILY BAG LIMIT<br>(POSSESSION LIMIT--<br>1 DAY'S CATCH) |
|--|---|---|--|
| Trout                                      | no closed season                                    | none                                    | 3  |
| Largemouth & smallmouth bass               | Jan. 1–April 14, 2005 and June 16 to April 14, 2006 | 12"                                     | 5 combined   |
|  | April 15–June 15, 2005                              | catch & release only                    | catch & release only                                     |
| Chain pickerel                             | no closed season                                    | 15"                                     | 5  |
| Muskellunge & hybrids                      | no closed season                                    | 36"                                     | 1  |
| Walleye                                    | Jan. 1–Feb. 28, 2005 & May 1–Feb. 28, 2006          | 18"                                     | 3  |
| Channel catfish                            | no closed season                                    | 12"                                     | 5  |
| Black & white crappie                      | no closed season                                    | 8"                                      | 10 combined  |
| Sunfish (bluegill, redbreast, pumpkinseed) | no closed season                                    | none                                    | 50 combined  |
| Yellow perch                               | no closed season                                    | none                                    | 50   |
| All other species                          | no closed season                                    | none                                    | none   |

# Exceptions to Statewide General Fishing Regulations

Exceptions to the statewide general fishing regulations occur throughout the state. The exceptions listed below may apply to all or part of the waterbody specified. Consult elsewhere in this *Digest* for individual descriptions of special regulations. **Note: As part of the general fishing regulations, waters stocked with trout are closed to fishing from 12:01 a.m. March 21 to 8 a.m. April 9. Refer to pages 8, 9 and 10 for a list of waters and regulations. Exceptions to this closure are designated below as OYR (open year round). However, all trout must be released during this period.**

## KEY TO EXCEPTIONS

|     |                           |      |   |
|-----|---------------------------|------|---|
| CML | Conservation Musky Lake   | OYR  | Open Year Round for fishing<br>(trout caught during the 3 weeks before opening day in April must be released) |
| BW  | Boundary Water            | SBL  | Smallmouth Bass Lake  |
| CPL | Chain Pickerel Lake       | STCA | Seasonal Trout Conservation Area  |
| CR  | Conservation Regulation   | TML  | Trophy Musky Lake   |
| FFA | Fly Fishing Areas (trout) | TSWC | Trout Stocked Water having Closed In-season Stocking Dates  |
| HSB | Hybrid Striped Bass       | TTL  | Trophy Trout Lake   |
| HTL | Holdover Trout Lake       | WTS  | Wild Trout Stream   |
| LBL | Lunker Bass Lake          | YTCA | Year Round Trout Conservation Area  |

## List of Exceptions

Red text indicates a change this year.

### Atlantic County

Hammonton Lake—CPL

### Bergen County

Bear Swamp Brook—WTS  
Ramapo Reservoir—TSWC  
Saddle River (Upper Saddle River)—WTS

### Burlington County

Delaware River—BW

### Camden County

Delaware River—BW

### Gloucester County

Delaware River—BW

### Hunterdon County

Black Brook (Clinton WMA)—WTS  
Cold Brook (Oldwick)—WTS  
Delaware River—BW  
Hickory Run (Califon)—WTS  
Little York Brook—WTS  
Musconetcong River—TSWC, STCA  
Raritan River, S/Br—TSWC, YTCA  
Rockaway Creek, N/Br—WTS  
Rocky Run (Clinton Twp)—WTS  
Round Valley Reservoir—TTL  
Spruce Run Reservoir—OYR  
Willoughby Brook (Clinton Twp)—WTS

### Mercer County

Delaware River—BW  
Mercer Lake—CML

### Middlesex County

Farrington Lake—OYR  
Raritan River—HSB

### Monmouth County

Lake Assunpink—LBL  
Manasquan Reservoir—OYR  
Manasquan River—TSWC  
Metedeconk River, N/Br—TSWC

### Morris County

Black River—TSWC  
**Boonton Reservoir—LBL**  
Burnett Brook (Ralston)—WTS  
Flanders Brook—WTS  
India Brook (Mendham)—WTS  
Indian Grove Brook (Bernardsville)—WTS  
Jackson Brook (Mine Hill Twp.)—WTS  
Lake Hopatcong—OYR, CPL, CML  
Ledgewood Brook—WTS  
Lomerson Brook (Pottersville)—WTS  
Musconetcong River—TSWC  
Passaic River—WTS  
Pequannock River—STCA, WTS  
Rhineharts Brook (Hacklebarney S.P.)—WTS  
Raritan River, N/Br—TSWC, YTCA  
Raritan River, S/Br—TSWC, YTCA  
Rockaway River—TSWC  
Splitrock Reservoir—LBL  
Stephensburg Creek—WTS  
Stony Brook (Wash. Twp.)—WTS  
Trout Brook (Hacklebarney S.P.)—WTS  
Turkey Brook (Mt. Olive)—WTS  
Whippany River (Mendham Twp.)—WTS

### Ocean County

Lake Shenandoah—OYR  
Manasquan River—TSWC  
Metedeconk River, N/Br & S/Br—TSWC  
Prospertown Lake—OYR  
Toms River—TSWC, YTCA

### Passaic County

Clinton Reservoir—HTL  
Echo Lake Reservoir—TML  
Greenwood Lake—BW, CML  
Monksville Reservoir—HTL, CML  
Pequannock River—STCA, WTS  
Pompton Lake—OYR  
Shepherd Lake—HTL  
Wanaque River—TSWC  
West Brook—WTS

### Salem County

Delaware River—BW  
**Parvin Lake—LBL**  
Rainbow Lake—CR

### Somerset County

Indian Grove Brook (Bernardsville)—WTS  
Lomerson Brook (Pottersville)—WTS  
Passaic River—WTS  
Raritan River—HSB  
Raritan River, N/Br & S/Br—TSWC

### Sussex County

Big Flatbrook—TSWC, FFA  
Delaware River—BW  
Lake Aeroflex—HTL  
Lake Hopatcong—OYR, CPL, CML  
Lake Wawayanda—HTL  
Mill Brook (Montague)—WTS  
Musconetcong River—TSWC  
Parker Brook (Stokes S.F.)—WTS  
Paulinskill River—TSWC  
Paulinskill, E/Br—TSWC, YTCA  
Pequest River—TSWC  
Ryker Lake—CR  
Stony Brook (Stokes S.F.)—WTS  
Swartswood Lake—HTL, CPL  
Van Campens Brook—WTS  
Wallkill River—TSWC

### Warren County

Bear Creek—WTS  
Bear Brook—*see Dark Moon Brook*  
Dark Moon Brook (Johnsonburg)—WTS  
Delaware Lake—LBL  
Delaware River—BW  
Dunfield Creek (Del. Water Gap)—WTS  
Hances Brook (Penwell)—WTS  
Merrill Creek—WTS  
Merrill Creek Reservoir—TTL  
Mountain Lake—TML  
Musconetcong River—TSWC, STCA  
Paulinskill River—TSWC  
Pequest River—TSWC, STCA  
Pohatcong Creek—TSWC  
Van Campens Brook—WTS  
White Lake—HTL

## Freshwater-Saltwater Boundary Line for Fishing License Requirement

A fishing license is required to fish the freshwaters of the state. Locations listed below mark the shift from saltwater (license not required) to freshwater.  
A fishing license is required upstream of these locations.

### ATLANTIC COUNTY

Absecon Creek—Dam at Lower Atlantic City Reservoir  
Great Egg Harbor River—Power lines at confluence of Gravelly Run  
Middle River—None—all saline water  
Mullica River—Line between Seventh Ave., Sweetwater, and ramp at Crowleys Landing  
Nacote Creek—Port Republic Dam  
Patcong Creek—Bargaintown Lake Dam  
South River—Power lines immediately below 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

Assisunk 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—Whitcar 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  
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—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.