

2005 Fishing Regulation Highlights

Mark your calendar: Opening day of trout season is April 9, 2005.

Anglers will want to make note of the following changes in this year's freshwater-fishing regulations:

Monksville Reservoir in Passaic County has been dropped from Fish & Wildlife's trout-stocking program because of poor angler returns and a decline in holdover trout. A two-year tagging study, initiated in 2002, confirmed angler returns of less than two percent on stocked trout. In place of Monksville, Green Turtle Pond, only a few miles from the reservoir, was added as a stocking location. The pond's smaller size should provide better returns and improve trout-angling opportunities in the area. Green Turtle Pond also will replace Shepherd Lake in Passaic County for winter trout stocking.

Mill Brook in Morris County also has been dropped from Fish & Wildlife's list of trout-stocked waters. This small tributary of the Rockaway River was stocked in only two locations, providing limited opportunities for cultured trout. All is not lost, however; anglers still can target the brook's naturally produced population of brook and brown trout.

For lake trout this year, the statewide minimum size limit is 15 inches and the daily creel limit is two fish. The season is open all year. Previous size and creel limits only applied to New Jersey's regulated trophy trout lakes. However, the statewide limit covers additional waterbodies, such as Monksville Reservoir (stocked in fall 2004), in which lake trout might be introduced in the future.

On the warmer side of fisheries, a catch-and-release season for largemouth and smallmouth bass will run from April 16 to June 10 in the Delaware River to protect the bass during their critical spawning period. These dates change every year to coincide with Pennsylvania's bass and trout seasons. Anglers should note, however, that catch-and-release season dates on the Delaware River differ from those established for other waters in New Jersey.

The minimum size limit on largemouth bass in Boonton Reservoir was increased to 15 inches, making it consistent with the minimum size limit for smallmouth bass caught in the reservoir. Also, a creel limit of 50 fish per day for yellow perch and sunfish was established for Greenwood Lake, improving consistency in regulations for New Jersey and New York at this important boundary water.

From May 1 to June 10, commercial gill netters can harvest white perch and blueback herring.

On the migratory side of fisheries, the upstream limit of Route 1 for the closed season on spawning striped bass in the Delaware River has been extended to the Calhoun Street Bridge, and now encompasses the river's entire spawning area for striped bass.

Elsewhere in this *Digest*, you can find all the freshwater fishing regulations for 2005, and we encourage all anglers to read them thoroughly.

As always, Fish & Wildlife welcomes you to attend our public meetings to voice your views on changes in freshwater fishing regulations and programs, share your ideas or ask questions. Public forums on trout are scheduled for February, and the public hearing on proposed changes to the Fish Code typically is held in September. Your participation is vital to the continued success of New Jersey's fishing programs. We hope to see you there.

Lisa Barno
Chief, Freshwater Fisheries

FISHING HOTLINES



**Spring / Fall / Winter
Division Trout Stocking
(609) 633-6765**

The computerized message is available 24 hours per day, seven days a week seasonally, or visit our Web site:
www.njfishandwildlife.com.



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

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

Hook A Winner Program



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

New Jersey waters. If you are a lucky angler who lands one of these fish, send your name, address, fish tag number and location of catch to the Pequest Trout Hatchery, 605 Pequest Road, Oxford, NJ 07863, Attn: Hook a Winner Program. In recognition of your catch, a certificate and award patch will be mailed. In addition, your name will be forwarded to the New Jersey State Council of Trout Unlimited and entered into their drawing for one of 12 rod and reel combinations to be held during the celebration of National Fishing Week, June 5–12, 2005.

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

(continued on page 7)

2005 Summary of New Jersey Freshwater Fishing Laws

(continued from page 6)

- one burr of three hooks that measure not more than 1/2-inch from point to point;
3. An artificial jiggling lure with not more than three single hooks measuring not more than 1/2 inch from point to shaft;
 4. An artificial jiggling 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 jiggling 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 Exception: season closed March 24 thru June 15 on trout stocked waters and special regulation trout areas	statewide (freshwaters)	No minimum size except 6" for Am. eel	35 per day, species combined
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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. Exception: In trout-stocked waters and special regulation trout areas a seine may not be more than 10 feet in length and 4 feet in depth.
Minnow trap	Not larger than 24" 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	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.

2005 TURTLE AND FROG REGULATIONS

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

Means of Take

Any person with a valid fishing license or those entitled to fish without a license may take snapping turtles, bull frogs, and green frogs by means of spears, hooks, dip nets not more than 24" 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). 2) Special regulation areas (wild trout streams, year round & seasonal trout conservation areas, trophy & holdover trout lakes). 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. 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.

MONDAYS April 11, 18, 25 May 2, 9, 16, 23	<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 Lake 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 (Exception: The section regulated as a year-round trout conservation area; see below.) <u>Wallkill River</u> - Lake Mohawk dam to Rt. 23, Hamburg
TUESDAYS April 12, 19, 26 May 3, 10, 17, 24	<u>Pohatcong Creek</u> - Rt. 31 to Delaware River <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)
WEDNESDAYS April 13, 20, 27 May 4, 11, 18, 25	<u>Raritan River, N/Br.</u> - Peapack Rd. bridge in Far Hills to junction with S/Br. Raritan River
THURSDAYS April 14, 21, 28 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 <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.) <u>Ramapo River</u> - State line to Pompton Lake (including Potash Lake)
FRIDAYS April 15, 22, 29 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 <u>Musconetcong River</u> - Lake Hopatcong dam to Delaware River including all mainstream impoundments except for Lake Musconetcong <u>Pequest River</u> - source downstream to Delaware River <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. 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 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) <u>Bear Swamp Brook</u> (Mahwah) <u>Black Brook</u> (Clinton WMA) <u>Burnett Brook</u> (Ralston) <u>Cold Brook</u> (Oldwick) <u>Dark Moon Brook</u> (Johnsonburg) <u>Dunnfield Creek</u> (Del. Water Gap) <u>Flanders Brook</u> (Flanders) <u>Hances Brook</u> (Penwell) <u>Hickory Run</u> (Califon) <u>India Brook</u> (source to Mountainside Ave., Mendham)	<u>Indian Grove Brook</u> (Bernardsville) <u>Jackson Brook</u> (source to Hedden Park Lake, Mine Hill Twp.) <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>Saddle River</u> (state line to Lake St., Upper Saddle River) <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>Whippany River</u> (source to Tingley Rd., Mendham Twp.) <u>Willoughby Brook</u> (Clinton Twp.)
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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. 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 21 to April 9 at 8 a.m.	Catch & Release Only			
April 9 at 8 a.m.—Dec. 31	15 inches	1 (see # 3)		
Paulinskil River, E/Br. (Sussex County) - from the Limecrest railroad spur bridge downstream to its confluence with the W/Br. Paulinskil at Warbasse Jct. (approx. 2.25 miles) Raritan River, S/Br. (Hunterdon County) - the stretch of water known as the Ken Lockwood Gorge, a distance of approximately 2 miles 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) 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. 2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3) Pequest River—fishing is not permitted during the first six in-season stocking closure dates. (See 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 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) 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) 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. 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. (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. 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 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 Lake Aeroflex Lake Wawayanda Monksville Reservoir Shepherd Lake Swartwood Lake 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 (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.

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
Largemouth & Smallmouth Bass				
 Largemouth Bass  Smallmouth Bass	Jan. 1–April 14	Statewide (exceptions below)	12"	5 Combined
	April 15–June 15 Catch & Release Only (all waters)	Lunker Bass Lakes: (Assunpink, Parvin, Delaware Lakes, Splitrock Reservoir, Boonton Reservoir)	15"	3 Combined
	June 16, 2005– April 14, 2006	Conservation Regulations: Ryker Lake Delaware River: See Boundary Waters, p. 14	15"	2 Combined
Northern Pike, Tiger Musky, Muskellunge				
 Northern Pike  Muskellunge	Open Year Round	Statewide exceptions below	24" Northern pike	2
			30" Tiger Musky & Muskellunge	2 Combined
		Trophy Musky Waters: Mountain & Echo Lake Reservoir	40" Tiger Musky & Muskellunge	1 Combined
		Conservation Regulations: Lake Hopatcong, Monksville Reservoir, Mercer Lake, Greenwood Lake	36" Tiger Musky & Muskellunge	
Chain Pickerel				
 Chain Pickerel	Open Year Round	Statewide (exceptions below)	No minimum size	5
		Special Regulation (Lake Hopatcong, Swartswood Lake, Hammonton Lake)	15"	
Walleye				
 Walleye	Jan. 1–Feb 28	Statewide	18"	3
	March 1–April 30 Catch & Release Only May 1–Feb. 28, 2006			
Striped Bass (freshwater only) Striped bass regulations are subject to change. Consult our Web site www.njfishandwildlife.com and the news media for updates.				
 Striped Bass	March 1–Dec 31	Statewide (exceptions: Delaware River, See Boundary Waters, p. 14)	Greater or equal to 24" but less than 28"	1
			34" or greater	1
Hybrid Striped Bass Striped bass regulations are subject to change. Consult our Web site www.njfishandwildlife.com and the news media for updates.				
 Hybrid Striped Bass	Open Year Round	Statewide (exceptions below)	16"	2
	March 1–Dec 31	Raritan River downstream of Duke Island Park dam (for Delaware River, see p. 14)	Greater or equal to 24" 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
American Shad				
 American Shad	Open Year Round	Statewide	No minimum size	6
Channel Catfish				
 Channel Catfish	Open Year Round	Statewide	12"	5
Crappie (Black & White)				
 Crappie	Open Year Round	Statewide	8"	10 Combined
Other Fish Species (rock bass, white bass, white perch, yellow perch, sunfish, bullheads, white catfish, suckers, carp, bowfin, redbfin pickerel)				
	Open Year Round	Statewide (exceptions below)	No minimum size	25 Combined
		Conservation Regulation	Sunfish 7"	10 Combined
		Ryker Lake	Yellow Perch no min. size	10
		Conservation Regulation Rainbow Lake	Sunfish 7"	10 Combined
Freshwater Baitfish (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: Echo Lake, Clinton, Oak Ridge & Canistear	Morris Passaic Sussex	Boat & Shoreline	Yes	Newark Watershed Conser. & Dev. Corp 223 Echo Lake Road, Newfoundland, NJ 07435 (973) 697-2850 Permits available in person only Also available at: 40 Clinton Street, 4th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102 (973) 622-4521 Permits available in person only
Point View Reservoir	Passaic	Shoreline only Sat. & Sun 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.	No	Passaic Valley Water Commission 1525 Main Avenue, Clifton, NJ 07015 (973) 340-4309 Send stamped, self addressed envelope. A daily permit will be mailed. Permit allows two people to fish
Oradell Reservoir Woodcliff Lake Lake Tappan Reservoir	Bergen Bergen Bergen	Shoreline only Shoreline only Shoreline only	Yes*	United Water Company 200 Old Hook Road, Harrington Park, NJ 07640 (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 (BOTH DATES INCL.)	MINIMUM LENGTH	DAILY BAG LIMIT (POSSESSION LIMIT-- 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 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 (BOTH DATES INCLUDED)	MINIMUM LENGTH (BOTH DATES INCLUDED)	DAILY BAG LIMIT (POSSESSION LIMIT-- 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 (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 Assumpink—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.

Wildlife Management Area Regulations

Regulations for use of these areas are established by the Division of Fish and Wildlife with penalties of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200.

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

The Division may revoke any permit or other authorization issued for violation or due cause.

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

Restricted Hours

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

Special permission may be granted for Division approved activities.

Motor Vehicles

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

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

Target Practice

Only archery, shotgun, muzzleloading shotgun, muzzleloading rifle and .22 caliber

rifle shooting is allowed in designated hunter training ranges according to posted regulations at the training area. Other target practice is allowed only with permission from the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Field Trials

Permits for use of Wildlife Management Areas for running of field trials may be granted by the Division.

Dog Training and Exercising

Dogs may only be trained between Sept. 1 and Apr. 30. Some areas with designated dog training areas allow dog training all year. All dogs must be licensed according to state law.

Outboard Motors

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

Horseback Riding

This is allowed only on designated WMAs with written permission from the Division of Fish and Wildlife. For horseback riding permit information, call (609) 259-2132.

Fishing Tournament

Any club or organization that would like to use Division Wildlife Management Areas for fishing tournaments must secure a permit from the Division. An application must be submitted along with a \$17 fee to obtain a use permit. Applications will be accepted in January at the Division's Southern Region office at (856) 629-4950.

Boat Ramp Maintenance Permit

Any vehicle used to transport or launch a vessel or water conveyance on the following WMAs must have affixed to the lower corner of the driver's side rear window a Boat Ramp Maintenance Permit or applicant's copy from a valid hunting, fishing or trapping license. Boat Ramp Maintenance Permits may be purchased for a fee of \$15 from Division offices at the Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center, Northern, Central and Southern Region, Nacote Creek, Bivalve, Tuckahoe, Lebanon and Trenton offices. Boat Ramp Maintenance Permits may also be purchased by mail from N.J. Division of Fish and Wildlife, PO Box 400, Trenton, N.J. 08625, Att: Boat Ramp Permit.

1. Round Valley Reservoir, Angler Access
2. Kingwood Access, Delaware River
3. Assunpink WMA, Assunpink Lake
4. Assunpink WMA, Stone Tavern Lake
5. Assunpink WMA, Rising Sun Lake
6. Dennis Creek WMA, Dennis Creek
7. Tuckahoe WMA, Tuckahoe River
8. Mad Horse Creek WMA, Mad Horse Creek
9. Union Lake WMA, Union Lake
10. Menantico Ponds WMA, Menantico Ponds
11. Prospertown Lake WMA, Prospertown Lake

Maps and information on hunting and fishing areas is also available from the following sources:

USGS Topographic Maps

Topo quads - \$10 each. Specify exact location including county, township, road or select a WMA NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection Maps and Publications
P.O. Box 438 • Trenton, NJ 08625-0438
(609) 777-1038 • www.state.nj.us/dep/njgs

State Parks and Forests Maps

Maps and information on lands administered by the Division of Parks and Forestry. Please specify park or forest. Free.
NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection
Division of Parks and Forestry
P.O. Box 404 • Trenton, NJ 08625-0404
(800) 843-6420

Wildlife Management Area Maps

Maps and information on lands administered by the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Available on our Web site at: www.njfishandwildlife.com/wmland.htm. Photocopies of individual WMA maps on USGS base available free. Specify which WMA.
NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife
WMA Map Request
P.O. Box 400 • Trenton, NJ 08625
(609) 984-0547

Or, to create your own map, See i-MapNJ below

A statewide "Wild Places & Open Spaces" map is available for \$4 (includes first class postage)
NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife
Wild Places & Open Spaces map
P.O. Box 400 • Trenton, NJ 08625
(609) 984-0844

Inventory of New Jersey Lakes and Ponds,

including location, fish species present, stocking information, water depth, weed distribution and water quality on 12 select lakes. \$3 (includes postage)
NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife
Freshwater Fisheries
P.O. Box 394
Lebanon, NJ 08833

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has a new Web-based tool called i-MapNJ.

If you have access to the Internet, here is a way to create maps of your favorite Wildlife Management Areas. i-MapNJ also provides a wealth of other environmental information.

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

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

If you do not have access to the Internet and are interested in a specific Wildlife Management Area, call (609) 984-0547 to request a map.

Angler Ethics

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