



New Jersey

Fish & Wildlife

D I G E S T

2008 Freshwater Fishing Issue

A summary of Rules & Management Information
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January 2008

Free

Go Fishing
Off the
Beaten Path
p. 30

Brook Trout:
Species
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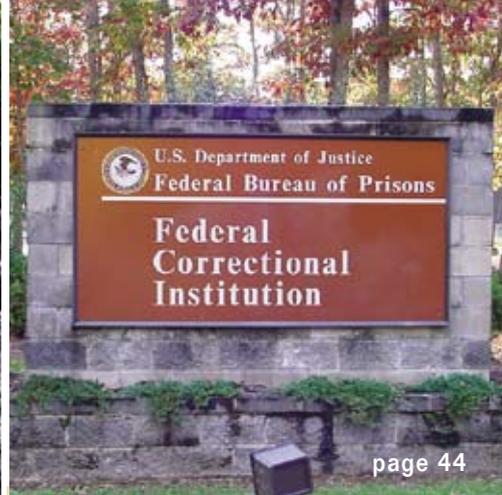


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In April, the Delaware River Shad Fishermen's Association provides a message on the shad run in the Delaware 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Information on river conditions and the status of the shad run is offered. Call in late evening or early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

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Commissioner's Message



BY LISA P. JACKSON

New Jersey has a rich legacy of progressive environmental policies. Under Governor Jon S. Corzine's leadership, we are continuing to expand upon that progressive legacy. Governor Corzine recognizes that protecting water quality, providing healthy fish habitat and ensuring public access are key components in sustaining a desirable quality of life in the Garden State and are of particular concern to anglers.

Over the past few years, the Department of Environmental Protection has launched a number of major Clean Water Initiatives to protect our state's water resources and the fish - and the anglers - that depend on them. Through the Category One designation, an increasing number of streams are now afforded the state's highest level of water-quality protection. Category One designation limits development impacts and discharges of pollutants to these streams, rivers and lakes, ensuring no further degradation to waters that either support critical wildlife or feed into a drinking water source. This designation includes the requirement of a 300-foot buffer along these protected waterways. Protecting these high quality streams protects the fish that inhabit them.

Another Clean Water Initiative is the recent adoption of revised Stormwater Management Rules. These rules emphasize low impact building techniques that will prevent or minimize the impact of new development sites using both structural and non-structural techniques such as minimizing land disturbance, minimizing impervious cover, or

infiltration basins and vegetative filters.

In addition to these Clean Water Initiatives, another cornerstone in protecting our freshwater fisheries is to protect the waterways through land acquisition at both the state and local level. By purchasing watershed lands that surround waterways and saving them as open space, we not only protect the water resource but we also provide public access for anglers and other outdoor enthusiasts.

Preservation of open space through the Green Acres and Garden State Preservation Trust Fund is vital to protecting quality of life in our state. To date, New Jersey has permanently preserved over 1.3 million acres, but over 2 million acres, much of it with high natural resource value, remains unprotected and at risk.

On a closing note, I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Division of Fish and Wildlife on its recent Association of Conservation Information Awards for the *New Jersey Fish and Wildlife Digest*. For the second year in a row, the *Digest* has been recognized for its excellence. Many other fish and wildlife agencies seek to emulate the quality and success of the *Digest*. This cost-effective publication provides valuable information to the hunting and fishing public and is an invaluable outreach tool not only for the Department but also the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Congratulations to all the dedicated staff who contribute to produce the *Digest*!

Lisa P. Jackson is Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Director's Message



BY DAVE CHANDA

There is exciting news to report for anglers, other outdoors enthusiasts and all Garden State residents. Thanks to your support, voters approved a constitutional amendment in 2006 which allows the dedication of a portion of the Corporate Business Tax (CBT) to fund maintenance and capital improvements at state parks

and wildlife management areas. With this stable source of funding, the Division of Fish and Wildlife now has the opportunity to expand how these areas can be used for public enjoyment. Coordinated efforts among the Department's Natural and Historic Resources sections have assured protection and added recreational opportunities as well as increased and enhanced access to New Jersey's fish and wildlife resources. These activities directly benefit anglers both in accessibility and watershed preservation.

A few examples of how this money is being used include:

- The Pequest Trout Hatchery water system will receive a new well this spring guaranteeing a clean, adequate water supply for years to come at New Jersey's only trout hatchery.

- A feasibility study to create a supplemental water supply is scheduled at the Hackettstown Hatchery. This project includes replacing some of the pipes carrying water from the current spring system that supplies the hatchery. Amazingly, these are the original water supply pipes from when the hatchery was constructed in 1912.
- Access to Penbryn Pond in Winslow Township, Camden County, will be greatly enhanced and the associated parking area expanded. The pond offers excellent warmwater fishing and anglers will be thrilled to note that recent sampling efforts indicate a thriving largemouth bass population with several specimens weighing more than five pounds. The pond was also the site of an artificial habitat project last spring.
- Floating docks will be constructed at the Round Valley Boat Ramp, Hunterdon County, to provide easier access to this trophy trout lake. In addition, restroom facilities will become handicapped accessible.

Other exciting news includes a state-of-the-art boat ramp and parking system on the Salem River/Canal within the Salem River WMA. This area is one of South Jersey's best largemouth bass waters. Working with DEP's Natural Resources Damages Program, a settlement from DuPont Corporation will fund the completion of this project, which is

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anticipated by late spring or early summer. Currently, public access to this waterway is severely limited. Boaters should be extremely impressed with this improvement.

In addition, significant acquisitions along the state's major trout streams in North Jersey are also underway through DEP's Green Acres Program. In 2008, anglers will see substantial additions to wildlife management areas along the Musconetcong River, Pohatcong Creek, South Branch of the Raritan River and Paulinskil River, along with expansions on many of the state's smaller trout stocked waters. Beyond the recreational benefits of added lands, these acquisitions help preserve water and habitat quality.

The Green Acres Program will also protect the entire southern shore of Harrisonville Lake in Salem County with the acquisition of a 200+-acre parcel added to the Harrisonville Lake WMA. Had this parcel been lost to threatening development, fishing quality on the lake would have been significantly degraded. The new acquisition will provide enhanced shoreline fishing opportunities.

Indeed, our agency is fortunate to have your support for these and many other natural resource-related improvement projects throughout the state. In some instances the wait for much-needed renovations has been very long, but I'm sure you will agree once all is completed, any inconveniences will have been well worth it.

**Dave Chanda is the Director
of the Division of Fish & Wildlife.**



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

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Cover Photo: Brook trout on the Pequest River by P. Jeremy Garnish

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New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife

Our Mission

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

Our Goals

- To maintain New Jersey's rich variety of fish and wildlife species at stable, healthy levels and to protect and enhance the many habitats on which they depend.
- To educate New Jerseyans on the values and needs of our fish and wildlife and to foster a positive human/wildlife co-existence.
- To maximize the recreational and commercial use of New Jersey's fish and wildlife for both present and future generations.

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Eastern Brook Trout

Species *in* PERIL

By Lisa Barno, Chief, Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries and Pat Hamilton, Principal Fisheries Biologist



T

HE BROOK TROUT,

our official state fish and the only trout species native to New Jersey waters, has the distinction of being a valued sport fish, an important water quality indicator, and is inextricably linked to our natural heritage. Their brilliant coloration and distinctive markings make them stand out among all other freshwater fishes.

Wild brook trout currently inhabit over 120 small streams cradled in the forested hills and mountains of north Jersey, and one stream in south Jersey. These wild populations are maintained through natural reproduction rather than by the stocking of hatchery-reared trout. The presence of naturally reproducing brook trout populations in the most densely populated, urbanized state in the nation may surprise those not familiar with New Jersey's diverse natural resources. Yet sadly, there are far fewer today than in the past. Until recently, the full extent of what has been lost, and more important—what is at risk—was not truly understood.

Distribution and Decline

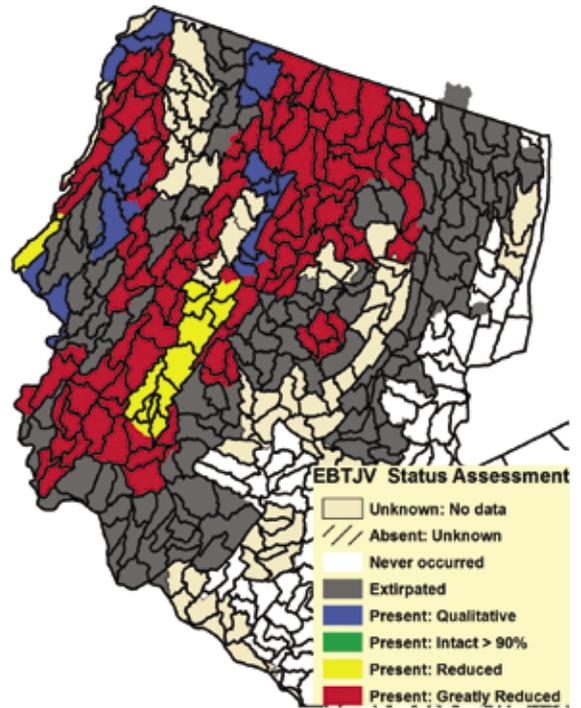
Once occupying almost 200 of the state's 900 subwatersheds, brook trout today survive here in less than half their original range¹. Populations once abundant across the northern and central portions of the state have been reduced to small, fragmented remnants. Today, only one possibly-intact subwatershed remains where brook trout are believed still to occupy at least 90 percent of that

particular historical habitat. In another 18 percent of the subwatersheds, brook trout occupy less than 50 percent of their original habitat.

Perhaps most alarming is evidence that brook trout are completely extirpated from 94 subwatersheds in New Jersey, resulting in a loss of over 62 percent of its original range statewide. This is the largest loss recorded by any state within the brook trout's native range. An additional 76 New Jersey subwatersheds are classified as "Unknown" since brook trout are not present in these areas but their historic presence is uncertain.

Declining Eastern Brook Trout populations extend well beyond New Jersey. From Maine to Georgia, brook trout have completely vanished from more than 20 percent of their historic eastern range¹. In 45 percent of subwatersheds where self-sustaining populations were present, brook trout occupy less than half of their historical habitat. The majority of historic, large-river brook trout populations no longer support self-sustaining populations. All lake populations have been eliminated save for a few strongholds in Maine. Currently, only five percent of the populations are considered to be intact throughout this trout's native range.

Brook Trout Distribution in New Jersey 2006



Habitat Harbinger

The brook trout's decline goes well beyond the loss of a species. Brook trout are the pickiest when it comes to cold, clean water, and when it comes to habitat standards, they are elitists. Their tolerance for nothing but the best makes them a most valued indicator species. Declining brook trout populations serve as a warning that the entire ecosystem's health is at risk.

(Continued on page 8)

Brook Trout Classifications	Number of Subwatersheds	Percentage of Subwatersheds
Intact (> 90% habitat occupied)	1	< 1 %
Reduced (50 – 90 % habitat occupied)	14	6 %
Greatly Reduced (< 50 % occupied)	44	18 %
Present, Qualitative data	19	9 %
Extirpated	94	38 %
Absent, Unclear history	76	30 %

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Eastern Brook Trout

Native Brook Trout Genetics

It was feared that New Jersey's genetically-unique wild brook trout populations were irretrievably lost through interbreeding with hatchery-reared brook trout, whose genetic origin differs from our native fish. A recently-completed study, by Pat Hamilton, examined the genetics of a subset of New Jersey's brook trout using 13 microsatellite markers developed by Dr. Tim King of the U.S. Geological Survey Leetown Science Center in West Virginia. Twenty-two wild brook trout populations inhabiting headwater streams in four major river drainages – plus one hatchery population – were surveyed.

This study revealed that New Jersey's wild populations have unique genetic identities. Even more exciting is convincing evidence that some Garden State brook

trout populations are descendants from the original brook trout colonizers present after the last glacial ice sheet receded more than 10,000 years ago. The existence of these ancestral populations, dubbed heritage brook trout, is important for conservation efforts of this native species.

Unique Legacy

Heritage brook trout populations were found in five of eight streams within the Passaic River watershed (the Preakness, Burnt Meadow, Havemeyer, Hibernia brooks and a tributary of Crooked Brook) plus six of seven streams in the Raritan River watershed (Flanders Brook, Krueger's Creek, Turkey Brook, a S/Br. Raritan River tributary, Hacklebarney Brook, and Oakdale Creek). The ancestry of brook trout from other streams in the Delaware River watershed (including Mason's Run in south Jersey) and

one stream in the Hudson River watershed was not as conclusive. One stream from the Passaic River watershed, Cooley's Brook, showed evidence of interbreeding with a non-native brook trout strain. Heritage brook trout represent an irreplaceable part of the natural resources in New Jersey and documentation of their presence is invaluable to Fish and Wildlife's efforts to conserve and manage this precious natural resource.

Commitment to Restore

Documenting the status of brook trout in New Jersey and throughout the northeast was a result of the formation of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) in 2004. The EBTJV is a concerted effort among state and federal fish and wildlife agencies, conservation organizations and academic institutions with the goal to halt the brook trout's decline and restore fishable



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populations. The EBTJV is a geographically-focused, locally-driven, and scientifically-based effort to assess, protect, restore and enhance aquatic habitat throughout the range of the Eastern Brook Trout.

In the first 18 months after its formation, EBTJV partners completed a 16-state brook trout status assessment encompassing the entire historic eastern range. This huge, collaborative effort evaluated decades of data collected by state fish and wildlife agencies from which the partners developed a range-wide assessment of brook trout populations¹. For many states, this is the first solid documentation of the brook trout populations' alarming decline.

(Continued on page 10)

Key Findings from the Distribution, Status and Perturbations to Brook Trout Within the Eastern United States¹

- ❏ Intact stream populations of brook trout (where wild brook trout occupy 90–100 percent of their historical habitat) exist in only five percent of subwatersheds.
- ❏ Wild stream populations of brook trout have vanished or are greatly reduced in nearly half of subwatersheds.
- ❏ The vast majority of historically-occupied large rivers no longer support self-reproducing populations of brook trout.
- ❏ Brook trout survive almost exclusively as fragmented populations relegated to the extreme headwaters of streams.
- ❏ Non-native fish rank as the largest biological threat to brook trout.

¹2005 Hudy, Thieling, Gillespie, and Smith. Distribution, Status and Perturbations to Brook trout within the eastern United States. Final Report: *Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture*



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Eastern Brook Trout

Stress Effects

The assessment identified key stressors likely to have played a role in this species' decline. At the subwatershed level, biologists identified high water temperature, poor agricultural land management, urbanization (including sedimentation from roads and inundation from dams) with resulting stream fragmentation, exotic species (especially exotic trout species) and poor riparian habitat management as top reasons for the loss of self-sustaining brook trout populations. Watersheds surrounded by land with greater than 18 percent disturbance from human usage usually can no longer support wild brook trout.¹

Work in Progress

The EBTJV continues its mission to protect and restore brook trout via the completion of a range-wide conservation strategy. Funding is sourced for restoration projects to return brook trout to their native waters. Public outreach increases awareness of the brook trout's dilemma. Additional information and updates on the Venture's work are available at www.EasternBrookTrout.org

The brook trout's role as an indicator species of a healthy ecosystem is perhaps the most important reason for concern about this species' long-term survival. The brook trout's decline reveals the price we pay for unwise management of our watersheds and the failure to protect vital riparian corridors. Restoring brook trout populations will require a concerted effort among anglers, landowners, watershed organizations, plus local, state and federal governments. The brook trout's long-term survival depends on each and every one of us. 

The Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture:¹

- ❧ Fish and Wildlife agencies from 17 states
- ❧ Federal support from U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and Office of Surface Mining
- ❧ Conservation Organizations including Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Trout Unlimited, Izaak Walton League of America, Trust for Public Land and the Nature Conservancy
- ❧ Academic institutions including Conservation Management Institute at Virginia Tech and James Madison University
- ❧ The nation's first pilot project under the National Fish Habitat Initiative (www.fishhabitat.org).

¹2005 Hudy, Thieling, Gillespie, and Smith. Distribution, Status and Perturbations to Brook trout within the eastern United States. Final Report: *Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture*

Wild brook trout inhabit over 120 small streams cradled in the forested hills and mountains of north Jersey.



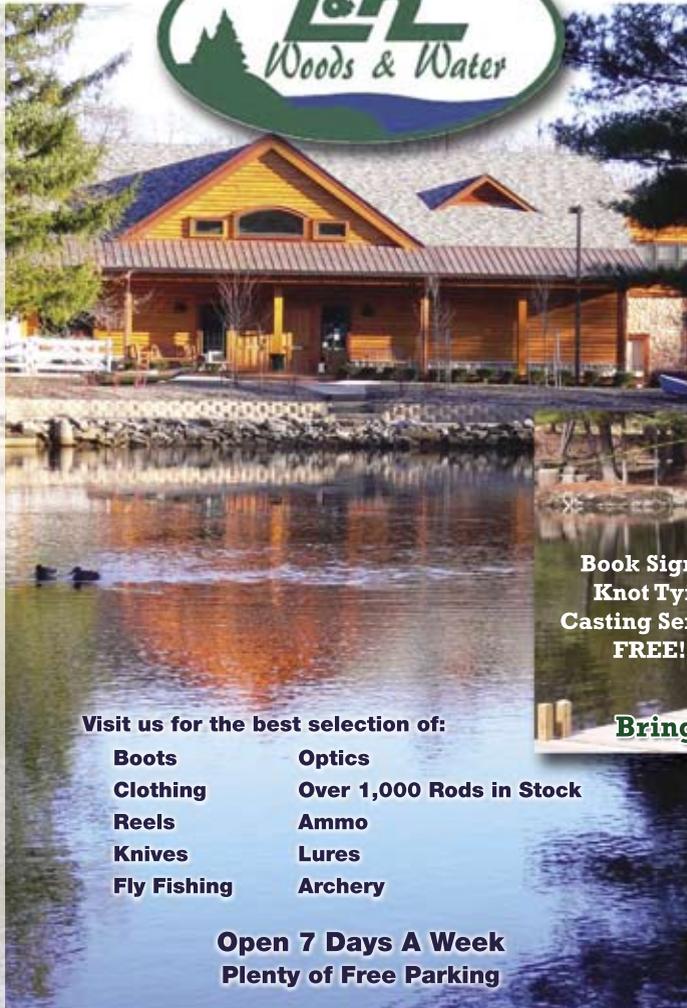


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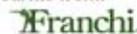
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Numerous freshwater fishing regulations changes are effective January 1, 2008. These changes appear in **red text** in their respective sections throughout the *Digest*. The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife and the Fish and Game Council greatly appreciate the input of the state's angling community in alerting us to issues of concern and providing suggestions for regulatory changes.

Each year Fish and Wildlife holds two public forums offering anglers the best opportunity to share their views and ideas on freshwater fishing in the Garden State. Join us at one of this year's forums, both starting at 10 a.m.:

March 1, 2008, Batsto Village Visitor's Center in Wharton State Forest

Dec. 6, 2008, Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery.

Anglers are encouraged to attend these informative sessions. Your input is valuable for directing future stocking, regulatory and management decisions.

General Regulation Changes

Three rod limit for shoreline fishing

When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, hand lines, or combination thereof may be used. A rod limit prevents the shoreline of a lake from being monopolized by only a few anglers fishing with numerous rods. A three-rod limit, from either boat or shore, has been in effect on the Delaware River for some time. The rod limit, originally proposed as two, is increased to three by the Fish and Game Council based on public comment.

Size limit on muskellunge and tiger muskie increased

The minimum size limit for muskellunge and tiger muskie is increased from 30 inches to 36 inches, and the possession limit reduced from two to one fish, species combined. Previously, six of the 14 waters stocked with pure strain muskellunge were regulated under a 36-inch or 40-inch minimum size and a one fish creel. The remaining eight waters were originally stocked with tiger muskie and had a lower minimum size (30-inch) and creel (two fish) limit. Since New Jersey phased out the tiger muskie program and now stocks only pure strain muskellunge, these fisheries are now managed with more restrictive regulations.

Size limit set for pickerel

The chain pickerel, a major game fish species found throughout New Jersey, previously was protected with a 15-inch minimum size limit in only a few designated lakes. This 15-inch minimum is expanded to include all waters statewide and now applies both to chain and redbfin pickerel as these two species can be difficult to tell apart. The five-fish creel limit now applies both to chain and redbfin pickerel, species combined.

Protection for small, native sunfish

The possession of the following sunfish is prohibited: mud, blackbanded, bluespotted, and banded sunfish. Found primarily in the Pinelands, these valued native species are not typically targeted by anglers, however, anglers may catch these species. Previously there were no creel or size limit restrictions. If caught, these sunfish species must be released immediately unharmed.

Trout Regulation Changes

Minimum size on trout increased

The statewide minimum size limit for brook, brown and rainbow trout has been increased from 7 to 9 inches. Most trout anglers target stocked trout, which average 10.5 inches in the spring, and 14 – 16 inches when stocked in the fall and winter. Consequently, this regulation will not noticeably affect angler harvest of stocked trout. The minimum size is adjusted to afford naturally reproducing trout populations in small streams with a greater level of protection. Many of these trout populations have small numbers of spawning adults that seldom exceed nine inches. A 9-inch minimum size limit will limit the harvest of these sexually mature trout and help ensure that enough remain to reproduce every year. The new size limit also applies to designated wild trout streams and holdover trout lakes.

Lake trout regulations liberalized for Round Valley Reservoir

The minimum size and possession limit for lake trout in Round Valley Reservoir is now **three fish measuring at least 15 inches up to and including 20 inches. One additional large lake trout, measuring at least 24 inches in length, is also allowed for a total daily limit of four fish. Previously only one laker measuring at least 20 inches could be taken each day.**

The lake trout regulation is liberalized because annual fall netting data collected by Fish and Wildlife revealed a significant shift in the size structure of the lake trout population in the reservoir. Fewer fish over 20 inches have been captured in recent years, and the number of small lakers has increased. Lakers between 15 and 20 inches have "stockpiled" due to a slow-down in growth caused by a decline in alewives (also known as herring) in the reservoir, the laker's preferred food.

To rebuild a desirable population size structure, the number of small lake trout must be reduced. Anglers can help improve the quality of the trout fishery by harvesting three lakers between 15 and 20 inches. A plus for anglers is lakers in this size range are excellent table fare. To further assist in the rebuilding process, lake trout between 20 and 24 inches may not be harvested. For more information concerning recent management activities, read the article *Spotlight on Round Valley Reservoir* found on Fish and Wildlife's Web site www.NJFishandWildlife.com.

Holdover Trout regulation on Swartswood Lake dropped

Swartswood Lake is no longer regulated as a Holdover Trout Lake because suitable summer trout habitat (a layer of cold, well-oxygenated water) is lacking. The lake will continue to be stocked with trout in the spring to provide a seasonal trout fishery. Though less trout will be stocked in the spring, large broodstock are to be mixed in with the early season stockings, and the weekly in-season stockings will be earlier so the trout can be better utilized before the water becomes too warm. As in the past, Swartswood Lake remains open to fishing during the three weeks prior to opening day, and all trout caught during this period must be released immediately.

New wild trout stream in Passaic County

A four-mile stretch of the Wanaque River, from the Wanaque Reservoir dam downstream to the Wanaque Avenue bridge, is now designated as a Wild Trout Stream. A 12-inch minimum size is in effect for brown trout within this stretch. This section of the Wanaque has proven ability to produce large wild brown trout, in excess of 12 inches, with some fish reaching 25 inches in length. For brook trout and rainbow trout, the 9-inch size limit applies. This stretch is no longer stocked with trout.

Two new trout-stocked waters in Hunterdon County

Manny's Pond and Mountain Farm Pond are the newest additions to Fish and Wildlife's trout stocking program. Although Hunterdon County offers numerous opportunities for trout fishing, opportunities in small ponds, targeted by younger anglers and their families, are quite limited. These two county park ponds are good places for young anglers and their families to experience fishing.

Trout stocking extended in Hohokus Brook and Rahway River

The trout-stocked section of Hohokus Brook (Bergen County) is extended from Whites Pond to the confluence of the Saddle River. The trout stocked section of the Rahway River is extended into Essex County, from Campbells Pond to Glen Avenue. These extensions will increase trout fishing opportunities on these streams by 1½ miles and the number of trout stocked in these streams is increased accordingly.

Two waters dropped from the stocking program

Bostwick Lake (Cumberland) and Barker's Mill Brook (Warren) were removed from Fish and Wildlife's trout program. Bostwick Lake has not been stocked since the dam failed in 2000. Barker's Mill Brook (Warren) is dropped due to concern over the impacts of cultured trout on native brook trout populations, particularly on small streams.

Using purchased trout for bait

The possession of brown and rainbow trout less than the 9-inch minimum size limit is allowed when purchased for use as bait. A receipt, dated within 14 days of purchase, is required as proof of purchase. Small trout are used as bait by some anglers targeting large gamefish such as muskellunge and striped bass. Originally proposed for all trout species, the Fish and Game council voted to exempt brook trout based on public comment.

Boundary Water Changes

Minimum size increased on Delaware River muskies

The minimum size limit for muskellunge and their hybrids in the Delaware River is increased from 30 inches to 40 inches; the creel reduced from two fish per day to one.

The change protects the existing trophy muskellunge fishery in the river.

Catch and release season for bass on Greenwood Lake extended

Beginning December 2008, the catch and release season for bass on Greenwood Lake will be extended from December 1 to the third Saturday in June. In recent years, biologists and anglers have noticed a decline in the bass population in the lake and the fishery should improve over time as a result of this change.

New York's baitfish regulation on Greenwood Lake

Anglers should be aware that now only certified, virus-free baitfish may be transported to – or used on – the portion of Greenwood Lake owned by the State of New York. Anglers are urged to use only certified, virus-free baitfish when fishing *any* portion of the lake. For more information visit New York's Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources Web site at www.dec.ny.gov.

Ice Fishing Changes

Automatic hook-setting devices allowed

Devices with automatic hook-setting capabilities are now allowed for ice fishing. A new type of ice fishing device with automatic hook-setting capabilities is now available to anglers. Unlike older models, this device may reduce hooking mortality as it diminishes the probability of fish ingesting the hook. 

FREE
Fishing Days
June 7 & 8, 2008

No License needed!

See page 51



Take a Friend Fishing!

Freshwater Fisheries Forums

Presented by NJ Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife

1st Forum: March 1, 2008; 10 a.m.
Batsto Village Visitor's Center in Wharton State Forest

2nd Forum: December 6, 2008; 10 a.m.
Hackettstown Hatchery, Warren County

Come and share your views and recommendations for the future of freshwater fisheries in New Jersey and learn about current research, management and fish culture activities!

The forum at Hackettstown will include a tour of the fish production facilities.

For more information or to pre-register (not required) please call (908) 236-2118 or send an e-mail to njfwfish@earthlink.net. E-mails should include name, address, phone number, and number of people attending.



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

- For anglers 16 and over, a license is required to fish the fresh waters of the New Jersey, including privately owned waters.
- Resident anglers, age 70 and over, do not require a license. A driver's license or other acceptable proof of age containing date of birth and physical description will serve as the actual license.
- License must be visibly displayed on outer clothing.
- License and trout stamp are both valid from date of purchase through Dec. 31.
- A person must reside in New Jersey for six months to obtain a resident license.
- Farmers and immediate family members who live on the farm do not need a license to fish on their own farm, but must obey all fishing regulations.

Trout Stamps

For anglers 16 and over, and residents under the age of 70, a valid fishing license and trout stamp are required to fish for or possess trout. No trout stamp is required for residents 70 years and over.

Purchasing a License

Licenses may be purchased through the mail, online at www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ/ or at license agents such as sporting goods stores plus bait and tackle shops. Visit our Web site for details, or call (609) 292-2965.

Replacement – Lost License or Stamp

A license, permit or stamp can be replaced at any license agent or online at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site, www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ/. The Trenton Fish and Wildlife office is no longer open to the public for license or permit sales.

Special Licenses

Servicemen and Servicewomen

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

National Guard Members

Eligible National Guard personnel are entitled to free licenses, permits, and stamps. Further information can be obtained by writing to: NJ Department of Military/Veteran Affairs, 101 Eggerts Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648. Or call (609) 530-6866 for 1st Sgt. Turrian.

Disabled Veteran Applicants:

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.

For the Blind

Residents afflicted with total blindness may obtain a free license from Fish and Wildlife's Trenton office. Call (609) 292-2965 for an application.

Summary of General Fishing Regulations

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

- Fish may be taken only in the manner known as angling with handline or with rod and line, or as otherwise allowed by law.
- **When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, handlines or combination thereof may be used.**

- Only one daily creel of any fish species may be in possession. Additional fish may be caught once the creel is reached if immediately returned to the water unharmed.
- Separate stringers or buckets must be used for each angler's catch.
- Boats may contain only the combined daily creel limit for each legal angler on board.

A fishing license does not authorize trespass on private property. Permission first must be obtained from the landowner.

It Is Unlawful To:

- Fish within 100 feet (or as posted) of any fish ladder entrance or exit from March 1 through June 30.
- Spear fish in fresh waters. See exception for Delaware River, page 24.
- Possess a fishing device with more than nine hooks in total, or more than three treble hooks.
- Use set lines.
- Use cast nets in freshwater lakes or trout stocked waters. See *Baitfish Regulations*, page 25 for other exclusions.
- Foul hook any species other than yellow perch and white perch. This does not apply to fish taken through the ice.
- Snag any species of fish in Swartswood Lake and its tributaries, including Neldon Brook, plus Monksville Reservoir and its tributaries, including the Wanaque River.

LICENSE AND FEES

2008 License Information & Fees

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

Licenses

Resident Fishing (16 yrs. and over).....	\$22.50
Senior Resident Fishing (Ages 65–69 yrs.; 70 & over—Free).....	\$12.50
Resident Trout Stamp.....	\$10.50
Non-resident Fishing.....	\$34
Non-resident Trout Stamp.....	\$20
Non-resident 2-Day Vacation Fishing.....	\$9
Non-resident 7-Day Vacation Fishing.....	\$19.50
All-Around Sportsman (includes resident fishing, firearm hunting and bow/arrow hunting licenses).....	\$72.25

Permits

- Available online or through license agents: Boat Ramp Permit.....	\$15
- Available through the Lebanon Field Office..... (908) 236-2118	
Water Lowering, Fish Stocking, Baitfish Collecting, Tripliod, Grass Carp, Fish Tagging.....	\$2
Turtle & Frog Collecting.....	\$2
Scientific Collecting.....	\$22

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, page 24.

Emergency Closures

It is illegal to fish or attempt to catch or kill fish by any manner or means in any waters for which the Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, upon approval by the Fish and Game Council, issues an emergency closure notice. Such notification is effective and/or rescinded immediately upon public notification. Emergency closures shall be based upon imminent threat to the well-being of the fishery resources, and/or its users, and may include any exceptions to the total ban of fishing that the Director deems practical.

Ice Fishing

No more than five devices may be used for taking fish when ice is present. The devices that may be used are:

1. Ice supported tip-ups or lines with one single pointed hook attached, or one burr of three hooks that measure not more than 1/2-inch from point to shaft;
2. An artificial jiggling lure with not more than one burr of three hooks that measure not more than 1/2-inch from point to point;
3. An artificial 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.

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 three, directly attached to a rigid handle between December 1 and March 1.

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

Sale of Fish

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

Water Supply Reservoirs Open To Fishing By Permit Only

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

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 Conserv. & 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

Stocking Fish

A permit is required to stock fish or fish eggs into any water of the state, public or private. 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.

Tagging Fish

No person may tag or mark and then release a fish without first obtaining a fish stocking permit or by special permit issued by Fish and Wildlife. Contact the Lebanon Field Office at (908) 236-2118 for application information.

Waste of Fish

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

Places to Fish

For a great reference on New Jersey places to fish, including ponds, lakes, reservoirs, rivers and streams, visit our Web site at www.NJFishandWildlife.com/fishplc.htm or call (609) 292-2965.

Display Your License!



Show your support of Fish and Wildlife activities and programs . . .

**Display your license!
It's the Law!**

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 indicates a regulation change.

2008 General Trout Fishing Information

- Opening day of trout season: April 5, 2008 at 8 a.m.
- When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, hand lines or combination thereof may be used.
- A valid fishing license and trout stamp are both required for residents at least 16 years and less than 70 years of age plus all non-residents 16 years and older.
- Ponds, lake or sections of streams which are stocked with trout are **closed to fishing for all species** from March 17 to April 5 at 8 a.m.

Exceptions: Lake Farrington, Lake Hopatcong, Lake Shenandoah, Prospertown Lake and Swartswood Lake and are open year round to fishing. However, all trout caught during this period (above) must

be released immediately. Seasonal or Year-round Trout Conservation Areas and designated Holdover Trout Lakes (see pages 20) are also open to fishing but are catch-and-release only for trout. Fishing is not permitted on seasonal trout conservation areas from 12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m. on April 5, 2008.

- Only one daily creel limit of trout may be in possession. Once the creel limit is reached, an angler may continue to fish provided any additional trout caught are immediately returned to the water unharmed.
- Separate stringers or buckets must be used for each angler's catch.
- Containers in boats may hold only the combined daily creel limit for each legal angler on board.
- Fish and Wildlife reserves the right to suspend stocking when emergency conditions prevail.

Spring Trout Stocked Waters In-Season Fishing Closures

After opening day these waters may be fished on the day they are stocked. Note: The number in parentheses indicates the anticipated number of in-season stockings (from April 5 through May 23). 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 at (609) 633-6765. This recorded message is updated weekly. (Spring stocking: April - May; Fall stocking: October; Winter stocking: November.) Or visit our Web site at www.NJFishandWildlife.com.

Atlantic County

- Birch Grove Park Pond—Northfield (4)
- Hammonton Lake—Hammonton (4)
- Heritage Pond—Absecon (3)

Bergen County

- Dahnert's Lake—Garfield (3)
- Hackensack River—Lake Tappan to Harriot Avenue, Harrington Park (4)
- Hohokus Brook—Forest Rd. to confluence of Saddle River (4)
- Indian Lake—Little Ferry (4)
- Mill Pond—Park Ridge (3)
- Pascack Creek—Orchard Street, Hillsdale, to Lake Street, Westwood (4)
- Potash Lake—Oakland (3)
- Saddle River—Lake St. to Dunkerhook Rd., Fair Lawn (5)9
- 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)
- Pemberton Lake—Pemberton (3)
- Rancocas Creek, Southwest Br.—Medford, Mill Street Park to Branch St. Bridge (4)
- Sylvan Lake—Burlington (3)

Camden County

- Gloucester City Pond—Gloucester (4)
- Haddon Lake—Audubon (0)
- Oak Pond—Sicklerville (4)
- Rowands Pond—Clementon (3)

Cape May County

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

Cumberland County

- 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)
- Rahway River (W/Br) - **Campbell's Pond to Glen Ave. (Milburn)** (4)
- 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)
- Manny's Pond—Union Twp. (3)**
- Mountain Farm Pond—Lebanon Twp.(3)**
- Mulhockaway Creek—Pattenburg, source to Spruce Run Reservoir (5)
- Neshanic River—Kuhl Road to Rt. 514 (2)
- Nishisakawick Creek—Frenchtown-Everittstown Rd., 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. (1)
- Sidney Brook—Grandin, entire length (1)
- Spring Mills Brook—Spring Mills, entire length (2)
- Spruce Run—Glen Gardner and Lebanon Twp., entire length (5)
- Wickecheoke Creek—Covered Bridge, Rt. 604, Sergeantsville to Delaware River (2)

Mercer County

- Assumpink Creek—Assumpink Site dam upstream of Rt. 130 bridge to Carnegie Rd., Hamilton Twp. (4)
- Colonial Lake—Lawrence Twp. (3)
- Delaware-Raritan Canal—Mulberry St, Trenton to Alexander St, Princeton (4)
- Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal—Hunterdon/Mercer County line to Upper Ferry Rd. bridge (6)

Middlesex County

- Rosedale Lake—Rosedale (3)
- Stony Brook—Woodsville to Port Mercer (4)
- 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 Papaiani—Edison (0)

Lawrence Brook—Dam at Farrington Lake to 2nd RR Bridge (Raritan Railroad) below Main St., Milltown (4)

Roosevelt Park Pond—Edison Twp. (3)

Monmouth County

Echo Lake—Southard (3)

Englishtown Mill Pond—Englishtown (3)

Garvey's Pond—Navesink (3)

Hamilton Fire Pond—Neptune (3)

Hockhockson Brook—Hockhockson Rd. to Garden

State Parkway bridge (northbound) (5)

Holmdel Park Pond—Holmdel (3)

Mac's Pond—Manasquan (0)

Mingamahone Brook—Farmingdale, Hurley Pond

Rd. to Manasquan River (5)

Mohawk Pond—Red Bank (4)

Shadow Lake—Red Bank (3)

Shark River—Hamilton, Rt. 33 to Remsen Mill Road (5)

Spring Lake—Spring Lake (3)

Takanassee Lake—Long Branch (4)

Topenemus Lake—Freehold (3)

Yellow Brook—Hevers Mill Rd. to Muhlenbrink Rd., Colts Neck Twp. (2)

Morris County

Beaver Brook—Rockaway, entire length (3)

Burnham Park Pond—Morristown (4)

Drakes Brook—Flanders, entire length (3)

Hibernia Brook—Hibernia, entire length (5)

India Brook—Mountainside Ave. to Rt. 24, Ralston (5)

Lake Hopatcong—Lake Hopatcong (3)

Lake Musconetcong—Netcong (3)

Mt. Hope Pond—Mt. Hope (3)

Passaic River—White Bridge 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)

Prosperstown Lake—Prosperstown (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 River—Pompton Lake to Newark Pompton Turnpike (4)

Ringwood Brook—State line to Sally's Pond,

Ringwood Park (5)

Sheppard Lake—Ringwood State Park (3)

Salem County

Harrisonville Lake—Harrisonville (3)

Maurice River—Willow Grove Lake dam to Sherman Ave., Vineland (4)

Riverview Beach Pond—Pennsville Twp. (4)

Schadlers Sand Wash Pond—Penns Grove (3)

Somerset County

Lamington River—Rt. 523 (Lamington Road) at

Burnt Mills to jct. with the N/Br. of Raritan River (4)

Middle Brook, E/Br.—Martinsville, entire length (2)

Passaic River—(See Morris Co.)

Peapack Brook—Peapack-Gladstone, entire length (5)

Raritan River—Jct. of Raritan River N/Br. and S/Br., to Rt. 206 bridge (4)

Rock Brook—Zion, entire length (1)

Spooky Brook Park Pond—Franklin (0)

Sussex County

Alms House Pond—Myrtle Grove, Hampton Twp. (3)

Andover Junction Brook—Andover, entire length (2)

Big Flat Brook, Upper—Saw Mill Pond, High Point State Park to 100 ft. above Steam Mill Bridge on

Crigger Rd, Stokes St. Forest (4)

Blue Mountain Lake—Delaware Water Gap Nat'l

Recreation Area (3)

Clove River—Mt. Salem Rd. to Jct. of Rt. 23 and Mt.

Salem Rd. to Rt. 565 bridge (5)

Culver's Creek—Frankford Twp., entire length (5)

Dry Brook—Branchville, entire length (3)

Franklin Pond Creek—Hamburg Mtn. 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 Rd. bridge to Rt. 565, Lewisburg (2)

Papakating Creek, W/ Br.—Libertyville, entire length (2)

Pond Brook—Middleville, entire length (5)

Saw Mill Pond—High Point State Park (3)

Silver Lake—Hamburg Mountain WMA (0)

Stony Lake—Stokes State Forest (3)

Swartswood Lake—Swartswood (3)

Trout Brook—Middleville, entire length (2)

Wawayanda Creek—Vernon, entire length (5)

Wawayanda Lake—Vernon (3)

Union County

Green Brook—Rt. 527, Berkeley Heights to Rt. 22, Scotch Plains (2)

Lower Echo Park Pond—Mountainside (3)

Milton Lake—Madison Hill Rd. 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 (0)

Warren County

Beaver Brook—Silver Lake Dam to Pequest River (4)

Blair Creek—Hardwick Center to Blair Lake (2)

Blair Lake—Blairtown (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—Swayze's Mill Rd. to Rt. 519, Hope Twp. (2)

Jacksonburg Creek—Jacksonburg, entire length (2)

Lopatcong Creek—Rt. 519 to South Main St., Phillipsburg (5)

Merrill Creek Reservoir—Stewartsville (1)

Pohatcong Creek—Mt. Bethel to Rt. 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)



Sea Run Brown Trout

The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has stocked brown trout in the lower Manasquan River, Monmouth County. Anglers are asked to report all catches of brown trout that exhibit characteristics of a sea run. These fish tend to develop a more silvery coloration, masking most of the body spots after an extended time in salt water.



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

Call Pequest State Fish Hatchery (908) 637-4173 or Lebanon Field Office (908) 236-2118.

WE NEED YOUR COOPERATION!



General Trout Fishing Regulations (For Brook, Brown & Rainbow Trout and Hybrids)

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	EXCEPTIONS
January 1 – March 16	9 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 and seasonal trout conservation areas, trophy and holdover trout lakes). 3) On lakes Farrington, Hopatcong, Prospertown, Shenandoah and Swartswood fishing is permitted during the period March 17 – April 5 at 8 a.m. All trout caught during this period must immediately be released. 4) Greenwood Lake and Delaware River—see separate regulations for boundary waters, p. 24.
March 17 – April 5 at 8 a.m.	Fishing prohibited on all waters listed for trout stocking; all other waters—catch and release only (See exceptions at right)		
April 5 at 8 a.m. – May 31	9 inches	6	
June 1 – Dec. 31	9 inches	4	

Lake Trout Regulations

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

Trout Stocked Waters

General trout regulations apply; see above. Consult pages 16 and 17 for a complete list of trout stocked waters that can be fished beginning 8 a.m. April 5 including the days the waters are stocked. See below for a list of waters closed to fishing (5 a.m. to 5 p.m.) on dates listed for stocking.

Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing (5 a.m. to 5 p.m.) on Spring Stocking Dates General trout regulations apply; see above. In addition, 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 7, 14, 21, 28 May 5, 12, 19	Manasquan River — Rt. 9 bridge downstream to Bennetts bridge, Manasquan WMA Metedeconk River, N/Br. — Aldrich Rd. bridge to Ridge Ave. Metedeconk River, S/Br. — Bennetts Mill dam to twin wooden foot bridge, opposite Lake Park Blvd. on South Lake Drive, Lakewood Rockaway River — Longwood Lake dam (Jefferson Twp.) to Jersey City Reservoir in Boonton Toms River — Rt. 528, Holmansville, to confluence with Maple Root Branch, and Rt. 70 bridge to Rt. 571 bridge (Exception: the section regulated as a Year-round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.) Walkkill River — Lake Mohawk dam to Rt. 23, Hamburg
TUESDAYS April 8, 15, 22, 29 May 6, 13, 20	Pohatcong Creek — Rt. 31 to Delaware River Raritan River, S/Br — Budd Lake dam to junction with N/Br. Raritan River (Exception: the section regulated as a Year-Round Trout Conservation Areas; see separate regulation.)
WEDNESDAYS April 9, 16, 23, 30 May 7, 14, 21	Raritan River, N/Br. — Peapack Rd. bridge in Far Hills to junction with S/Br. Raritan River
THURSDAYS April 10, 17, 24 May 1, 8, 15, 22	Black River — Rt. 206, Chester to the posted Black River Fish & Game Club property at the lower end of Hacklebarney State Park Paulskill River, and E/Br. and W/Br. — 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; see separate regulation.) Ramapo River — State line to Pompton Lake (excluding Potash Lake)
FRIDAYS April 11, 18, 25 May 2, 9, 16, 23	Big Flat Brook — 100 ft. above Steam Mill bridge on Crigger Rd. in Stokes State Forest to Delaware River Musconetcong River — Lake Hopatcong dam to Delaware River including all mainstream impoundments except for Lake Musconetcong (Exception: the section regulated as a Seasonal Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.) Pequest River — source downstream to Delaware River (Exception: the section regulated as a Seasonal Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.) Wanaque River — Greenwood Lake dam to Wanaque Reservoir dam then from Wanaque Ave., Pompton Lakes to jct. with Pequannock River, excluding the Wanaque and Monksville reservoirs.

Boundary Waters (see page 24)

LOCATIONS	SPECIES	SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
Delaware River	all trout species	April 12 – Oct. 15 (trout caught at other times must be released immediately)	no min. size	5

Year Round Trout Conservation Areas

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS (in effect year round)
Jan. 1—March 16	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 closures which apply to the river. All trout caught during these periods must be released immediately.
March 17 — April 5 at 8 a.m.	Catch and Release Only		
April 5 at 8 a.m. — Dec. 31	15 inches	1 (see #3 at right)	

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)
Raritan River, S/Br. (Hunterdon County)—the stretch of water known as the Ken Lockwood Gorge, a distance of approximately 2.5 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
Jan. 1—March 16	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 and Musconetcong Rivers—fishing is not permitted during the first six in-season stocking closure dates. (See Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring Stocking Dates, p. 18). Fishing is permitted during the last in-season stocking closure date (May 23), but all trout caught between 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. must immediately be released.
March 17 — April 4	Catch and Release Only		
April 5 (12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m.)	Fishing Prohibited		
April 5 at 8 a.m. — May 18 Gear restrictions do not apply	9 inches	6	
May 19 — 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 road downstream to Rt. 625 (Pequest Furnace Rd.) bridge, a distance of approx. 1.6 miles
Musconetcong River (Hunterdon/Warren counties) — Penwell Road bridge downstream to the Point Mtn. Road bridge, a distance of approx. 1.2 miles

Trout Conservation Areas (TCAs): Driving Directions

	WATERBODIES	DIRECTIONS
Year Round TCAs	Paulinskill, E/Br (<i>Sussex County</i>) Limecrest railroad spur bridge downstream to its confluence with W/Br Paulinskill at Warbasse Jct. (approx. 2.25 miles)	Rt. 94/206 N., north of Newton, to Rt. 94 (Morris Farm Rd.) to Warbasse Junction Rd. (Rt. 663) to Garrison Rd. to bridge. Pull-off parking. Or Rt. 206 to Limecrest Rd. (Rt. 669), for approx. 6 mi. to Rt. 648 to bridge; pull-off parking.
	Raritan S/Br. - Ken Lockwood Gorge (<i>Hunterdon County</i>) Section of S/Br within the Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area (approx. 2.5 miles)	Rt. 31 to Rt. 513. Turn onto Hoffman's Crossing Rd. Take first right after bridge. Follow into Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area. Park in pull-off areas along dirt access road. PROCEED WITH CAUTION - deep ruts.
	Raritan S/Br - Claremont Stretch (<i>Morris County</i>) End of Angler's Anonymous property (private) downstream to confluence with Electric Brook (approx. 1.1 miles)	From Rt. 24 at light in Long Valley, go north on Schooley's Mt. Rd. Take immediate right after bridge onto Fairview Rd. Parking area approximately 1 mile on right. Follow path to river.
	Toms River (<i>Ocean County</i>) End of Riverview Park (Dover Twp.) downstream to Rt. 571 bridge (approx. 1 mile)	Rt. 195 (Exit 21) to Rts. 527/528 S. (Cedar Swamp Rd./ Veterans Hwy.) to Rt. 527 S. (Whitesville Rd.) to Riverwood Dr. to entrance of Riverview Park.
Seasonal TCAs	Pequannock River (<i>Morris/Passaic counties</i>) Rt. 23 bridge, at Smoke Rise, downstream to the Rt. 23 bridge at Smith Mills (approx. 1.2 miles)	Under Rt. 23 overpass; small dirt parking lot (downstream boundary of conservation area).
	Pequest River (<i>Warren County</i>) Conrail Railroad bridge, located upstream of the Pequest Trout Hatchery Access Road, downstream to Rt. 625 (Pequest Furnace Rd.) bridge (app 1.6 miles)	Rt. 31 to Rt. 46 E, approx. 4 mi. to Pequest Trout Hatchery; paved parking lot.
	Musconetcong River (<i>Warren County</i>) Penwell Road bridge downstream to Point Mountain Road bridge (approx. 1.2 miles)	Rt. 31 to Rt. 57 W. to Point Mt. Rd. to bridge; small parking lot on left over bridge (downstream boundary).

Trophy Trout Lakes				
LOCATIONS	SPECIES	SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
Merrill Creek Reservoir	brown & rainbow trout	open year round	15 inches	2
	lake trout	Jan. 1 – Sept. 15 & Dec. 1 – Dec. 31	15 inches	2
Round Valley Reservoir	brown & rainbow trout	open year round	15 inches	2
	lake trout	Jan. 1 – Sept. 15 AND Dec. 1 – Dec. 31	15 – 20 inches AND ≥ 24 inches	3 AND 1

Holdover Trout Lakes				
LOCATIONS	SPECIES	SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
Clinton Reservoir Lake Aeroflex Lake Wawayanda Shepherd Lake White Lake (Warren Co.)	brook, brown, rainbow trout, and hybrids	Jan. 1— March 18	9 inches	2
		March 17 — April 5 at 8 a.m.	Catch and Release Only	
		April 5 at 8 a.m. — May 31	9 inches	4
	landlocked Atlantic salmon	Jan. 1— Dec. 31	12 inches	2

Fly Fishing Areas				
SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS	
Jan. 1—March 16	9 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) After opening day and through May, fishing is prohibited from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on dates listed for stocking. (See Trout Water Closed to Fishing on Spring Stocking Dates, page 18.)	
March 17 — April 5 at 8 a.m.	Fishing Prohibited			
April 5 at 8 a.m.— April 14 at 5 a.m. Gear restrictions do not apply except on Blewett Tract	9 inches	6		
April 14 at 5 a.m.—May 31	9 inches	6		
June 1—Dec. 31	9 inches	4		

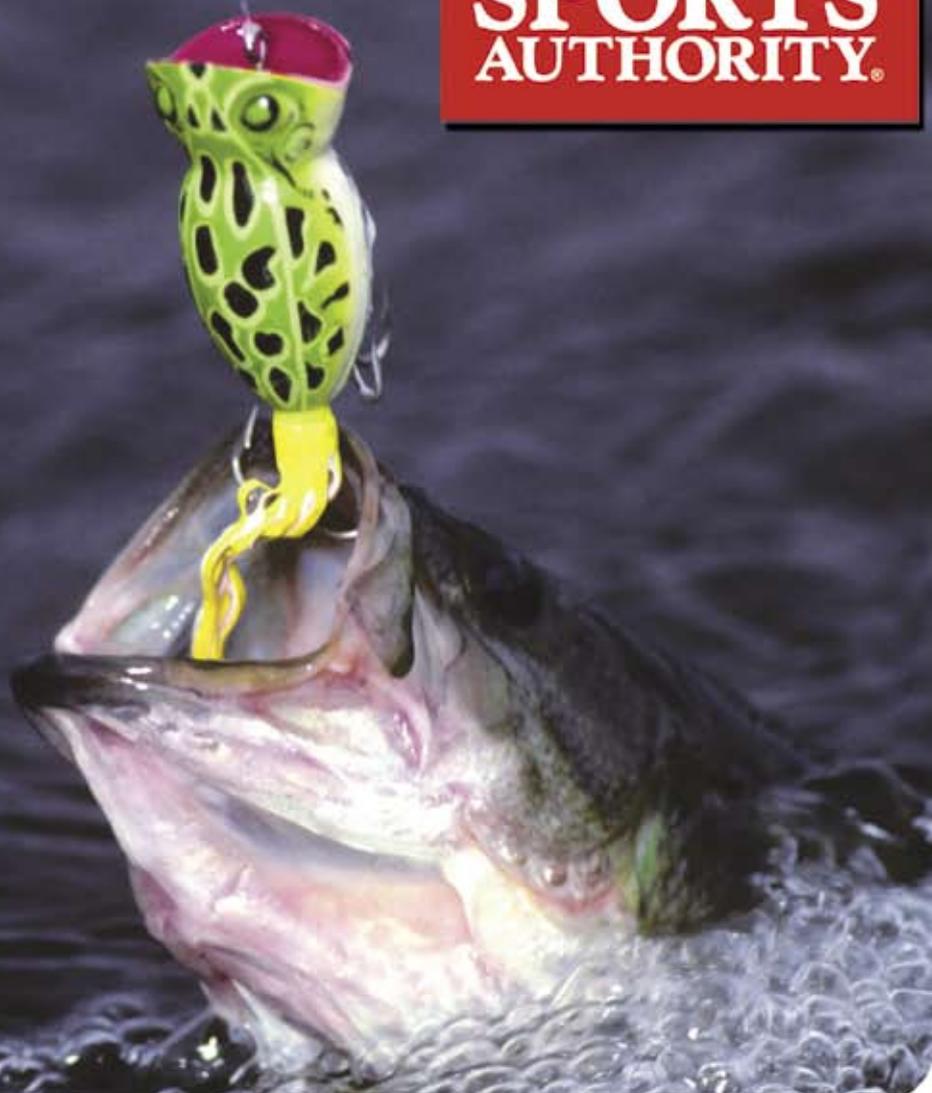
Big Flat Brook (Sussex County)—Rt. 206 bridge downstream to the Roy Bridge on Mountain Rd., a distance of approx. 4 miles, except that portion known as the Blewett Tract

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.

Wild Trout Streams				
SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	LOCATION	RESTRICTIONS
April 5 at 8 a.m. – Sept. 15	9 inches	2	Statewide except for brown trout in waterbodies listed in next line, below	1) Only artificial lures may be used. 2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited.
April 5 at 8 a.m. – Sept. 15	12 inches	2 brown trout	Pequannock River, Van Campens Brook and Wanaque River (Wanaque Reservoir Dam downstream to Wanaque Ave. bridge (Pompton Lakes))	
	9 inches	2 brook or rainbow		
Jan. 1 – April 5 at 8 a.m. and Sept. 16 – Dec. 31	Catch and Release Only		Statewide	

Bear Creek (Southtown) Bear Swamp Brook (Mahwah) Black Brook (Clinton WMA) Burnett Brook (Ralston) Cold Brook (Oldwick) Dark Moon Brook (also known as Bear Brook) (Johnsonburg) Dunfield Creek (Del. Water Gap) Flanders Brook (Flanders) Hance's Brook (Penwell) Hickory Run (Califon) India Brook (source to Mountainside Ave., Mendham)	Indian Grove Brook (Bernardsville) Jackson Brook (source to Hedden Park Lake, Mine Hill Twp.) Ledgewood Brook (Ledgewood) Little York Brook (Little York) Lomerson Brook (also known as Herzog Brook) (Pottersville) Merrill Creek (Stewartsville) Mill Brook (Montague) N/Br. Rockaway Creek (Mountainville) Parker Brook (Stokes S.F.) Passaic River (source to Rt. 202, Bernardsville)	Pequannock River (Oak Ridge Rd. bridge in Newark Watershed, downstream to railroad bridge immediately upstream of Charlottesville Res.) Rhineharts Brook (Hacklebarney S.P.) Rocky Run (Clinton Twp.) Saddle River (state line to Lake St., Upper Saddle River) Stephensburg Creek (Stephensburg) Stony Brook (Stokes S.F.) Stony Brook (Washington Twp., Morris Co.)	Tetertown Brook (Tetertown) Trot Brook (Hacklebarney S.P.) Turkey Brook (Mt. Olive) Van Campens Brook (Del. Water Gap; see Dunfield Ck.) Wanaque River (Wanaque Reservoir Dam downstream to Wanaque Ave. bridge – Pompton Lakes) West Brook (source downstream to Windbeam Club property) Whippany River (source to Tingley Rd., Mendham Twp.) Willoughby Brook (also known as Buffalo Hollow Brook) (Clinton Twp.)
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Fishing Regulations

SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS

Certain waters are closed to fishing for all species from March 17 to April 5, 2008 at 8 a.m. because of trout stocking. Refer to pages 16-18 for complete lists and exceptions. **For Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, see regulations on page 24.**

	SEASON	LOCATION	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
Largemouth & Smallmouth Bass				
 Largemouth Bass	Jan. 1— April 14	Statewide (exceptions below)	12"	5 combined
	April 15 — June 15 Catch & Release Only (all waters)	Lunker Bass Lakes: Assumpink, Parvin, Delaware Lakes, Splitrock Reservoir, Boonton Reservoir	15"	3 combined
 Smallmouth Bass	June 16 — Dec. 31	Conservation Regulations: Ryker Lake	15"	2 combined
Northern Pike, Tiger Musky, Muskellunge				
 Northern Pike	March 20 — May 20 Catch & Release only for Echo Lake Reservoir, Mercer Lake, Mountain Lake, Monksville Reservoir	Statewide	24" Northern Pike	2
		Statewide	36" Tiger Musky & Muskellunge	1 combined
 Muskellunge	Open Year Round	Trophy Musky Waters: Mountain & Echo Lake Reservoirs	40" Tiger Musky & Muskellunge	
Chain Pickerel and Redfin Pickerel				
 Chain Pickerel	Open Year Round	Statewide	15"	5 combined
Walleye				
 Walleye	Jan. 1— Feb 29 March 1 — April 30 Catch & Release Only May 1— Dec. 31	Statewide	18"	3
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	28"	2
Hybrid Striped Bass (freshwater only) 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	28"	2

Fishing Regulations

SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS

	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 and White)				
 Crappie	Open Year Round	Statewide	8"	10 combined
Banded, Black-banded, Blue Spotted and Mud Sunfish				
 Mud Sunfish	Closed	Statewide	Protected	0
Other Species				
 rock bass, white bass, white perch, yellow perch, sunfish, (see above for sunfish exceptions) bullheads, white catfish, suckers, carp, bowfin See page 10 for protection of small native sunfish.	Open Year Round	Statewide (exceptions below)	No minimum size	25 combined
		Conservation Regulation Ryker Lake	Sunfish 7"	10 combined
			Yellow Perch No minimum size	10
 Rainbow Trout, Yellow Perch		Conservation Regulation Rainbow Lake (Salem Co.)	Sunfish 7"	10 combined
Freshwater Baitfish (See page 25 for complete description of gear types and restrictions)				
alewife (anadromous and land-locked forms), blueback herring, golden shiner, banded killifish, mummichog, spotfin killifish, rainwater killifish, American brook lamprey, fathead minnow, bluntnose minnow, stonecat, tadpole madtom, margined madtom, all shiners, daces, minnows, gizzard shad and American eel	Open Year Round Exceptions: Baitfish may not be taken in trout stocked waters from March 17 to June 15	Statewide	No minimum except 6" for American eel	35 combined

Warning: Wildlife Hazard!

Please properly dispose of your fishing line.

Plastic debris can endanger aquatic life and snare propellers.



Fishing Regulations

DELAWARE RIVER AND GREENWOOD LAKE

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.

Delaware River

- New Jersey and Pennsylvania fishing licenses are both recognized when fishing the Delaware River from a boat or either shoreline. This applies to the main stem of the river only.
- Anglers may launch a boat from either shore and on return, may have in possession any fish which may be legally taken according to the regulations of the state where the landing is made.
- No more than two rods, each with one line, or two hand lines – or one of each – may be used. No more than three single hooks or three treble hooks per line.
- To protect spawning striped bass, from the Calhoun Street bridge near Trenton downstream to the Commodore Barry Bridge at Bridgeport, non-offset circle hooks must be used when using bait with a #2 sized hook or larger, from April 1 to May 30.
- Spears (not mechanically propelled) and bow and arrows may be used to take shad, eel, carp, sucker, herring and bullhead except within 825 feet of an eel weir. A valid fishing license is required.
- Baitfish may be taken and possessed for personal use and are not to be bartered or sold.

SPECIES	OPEN SEASONS	MINIMUM LENGTH	DAILY LIMIT
Bass, Largemouth & Smallmouth	Jan. 1 - April 11 June 14 - Dec. 31	12"	5 combined
	April 12 - June 13	Catch & Release Only	Catch & Release Only
Eel, American*	open year round	Pennsylvania: 8" (but 6" - 8" for baitfish) New Jersey: 6"	50
Herring, Alewife and Blueback	open year round	no minimum	35 combined
Muskellunge & hybrids	open year round	40"	1
Pickerel, Chain	open year round	12"	5
Pike, Northern	open year round	24"	2
Shad, American	open year round	no minimum	6
Shad, Hickory	closed	—	—
Striped bass & hybrids upstream of Calhoun St. Bridge	March 1– Dec. 31	28"	2
Striped bass & hybrids downstream of Calhoun St. Bridge	March 1– 30 June 1– Dec. 31	28"	2
Sturgeon, Atlantic and Shortnose	closed	—	—
Trout	April 12–Sept. 30	no minimum	5
Walleye	open year round	18"	3
All other freshwater species	open year round	no minimum	No limit
Baitfish*	open year round	no minimum	50

- A listing of fishing access locations along the Delaware River is available at Fish and Wildlife's Web site www.NJfishandWildlife.com, under Freshwater Fishing.
- The newly updated Delaware River Basin Commission recreation maps are available for \$25. An order form is available online at www.state.nj.us/drbc/recreation.htm.
- Information for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is available online at www.nps.gov/dewa/.
- Pennsylvania also enforces an 8-inch minimum on American eel. Eel used as bait must be at least 6 inches and no greater than 8 inches in length.

* Regulations for American eel are different for Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In Pennsylvania, American eel must be 6 to 8 inches in length when harvested as baitfish; otherwise, the minimum size for Pennsylvania is 8 inches, with a limit of 50 for both uses. In New Jersey, American eel must be at least 6 inches in length, with a limit of 50. American eels brought to shore must conform to the regulations of the state (NJ or PA) in which they are landed.

Greenwood Lake

- New York and New Jersey fishing licenses are both recognized anywhere on the lake or along the shoreline.
- Fishing is permitted 24 hours a day.
- In compliance with New York regulations, only certified virus-free baitfish may be transported to, or used on, the portion of Greenwood Lake owned by the State of New York. Anglers are urged to use only certified virus-free baitfish when fishing any portion of Greenwood Lake.
- Bow and arrow fishing for all carp, sucker, herring, catfish and eel is permitted. A valid fishing license is required.
- No more than five tip-ups and two hand-held devices may be used when ice fishing. All devices that are not hand held must be plainly marked with the name and address of the angler.

SPECIES	OPEN SEASONS	MINIMUM LENGTH	DAILY LIMIT
Bass, Largemouth & Smallmouth	Jan 1 - April 14, 2008 June 15 - Nov. 30, 2008	12"	5 combined
	April 15 - June 15, 2008 Dec. 1 - Dec. 31, 2008	Catch & Release Only	Catch & Release Only
Catfish, Channel	Open Year Round	12"	5
Crappie, Black & White	Open Year Round	8"	10 combined
Muskellunge & Hybrids	Open Year Round	36"	1
Perch, Yellow	Open Year Round	No minimum	50
Pickerel, Chain	Open Year Round	15"	5
Sunfish	Open Year Round	No minimum	50 combined
Walleye	Jan. 1 - Feb. 28 May 1 - Dec. 31	18"	3
	Open Year Round	No minimum	No limit

* Beginning December 1, 2008 the catch and release season for largemouth and smallmouth bass on Greenwood Lake has been extended from Dec. 1 until the third Saturday in June.

Additional information is available at the New York DEC's Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources Web site at www.dec.ny.gov.

2008 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, code and regulations are the legal authorities. See separate regulations for Delaware River (p. 24). For marine waters, see Marine Issue of *New Jersey Fish & Wildlife Digest*.

Baitfish Species

Baitfish species: alewife (anadromous and landlocked forms), blueback herring, golden shiner, banded killifish, mummichog, spotfin killifish, rainwater killifish, American brook lamprey, fathead minnow, bluntnose minnow, 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. 24)**

Season	Location	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Open Year Round Exception: season closed March 17 through June 15 on trout stocked waters and special regulation trout areas	Statewide (freshwaters)	No minimum size except 6" for American eel	35 per day, species combined

Notes: Any person with a valid fishing license (or those under 16 and those 70 years or older) may take baitfish in fresh waters. Possession limit is one day's limit, regardless of the intent to use these fish. Baitfish may be taken from the fresh waters of the state in numbers greater than 35 per day, in lakes over 250 acres, under a special permit issued by Fish and Wildlife at its discretion. Contact (908) 236-2118 for application information.

Gear	Gear Description
Seine	Not over 50 feet long in ponds & 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 nine single hooks or three hooks with three burrs per contrivance on all waters except the Delaware River where only three single hooks are permitted.

2008 TURTLE AND FROG REGULATIONS

Species	Season	Location	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Snapping turtle	January 1 – April 30 and June 16 – December 31	statewide	No min. size	3 per day
Bull frog and Green frog	January 1 – March 31 and July 1 – 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 in numbers greater than the daily limit under a special permit issued by Fish and Wildlife at its discretion. Contact (908) 236-2118 for application information.

State Police 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

Motor Boat Title and Boating Operator Requirements

Registration

Most boats must be registered to operate on New Jersey waterways. All titled boats must be registered also. Any boat (including jet skis and non-titled watercraft), mechanically propelled (motorized), regardless of length, must be registered. Boats greater than 12 feet in length, regardless of propulsion means, must be titled and registered at an MVC office.

Boats and marine equipment which **need not** be registered:

- Those not based in New Jersey or operating here less than 180 consecutive days
- Ship's lifeboats
- Non-motorized vessels used exclusively on small lakes and ponds on private property
- Racing vessels with New Jersey State Marine Police permit
- Non-motorized inflatable device, surfboard, racing shell, dinghy, canoe or kayak
- Non-motorized vessel less than 12 feet in length

Title

For use on New Jersey waterways, all boats more than 12 feet in length must be titled, with the exception of ship's lifeboat, canoe, kayak, inflatable, surfboard, rowing scull, racing shell, tender/dinghy used for direct transportation between a vessel and shore for no other purposes.

For more information, visit the MVC Web site at www.nj.gov and click on the Motor Vehicle Commission link, or stop by an MVC office or call (609) 292-6500.

Motor Boat and Jet Ski Operator License

A motorboat/jet ski operator license is required to operate these on fresh, non-tidal waters such as lakes, creeks and rivers for those 16 years or older. Visit the Motor Vehicle Commission Web site or call to verify if you must take a boating safety course.

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

Boating safety courses: (800) 336-2628 BoatUS Foundation www.BoatUS.com/courseline

For New Jersey State Police, boating laws clarification, call (609) 882-2000, or visit their Marine Services Bureau online at: www.nj.gov/lps/njsp/maritime/index.html

MOTOR BOAT REGISTRATION

OPERATOR REQUIREMENTS

POLICE STATIONS

Fishing License Lines

2008 REGULATIONS

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

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—Whitecar Mill, North of Beaver dam
Oyster Creek—None—all saline water

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

ESSEX COUNTY

Passaic River—Erie Railroad bridge between Newark (at Verona Ave.) and Kearny
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

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

UNION COUNTY

Elizabeth River—West Grand St., Elizabeth
Great Ditch—None—all saline water
Morses Creek—Old Morses Mill Rd.
Oyster Creek—None—all saline water
Peddie Ditch—None—all saline water
Piles Creek—None—all saline water
Rahway River—Lawrence St. (Rt. 514), Rahway

WARREN COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

IMPORTANT FOOTNOTES:

1. Absence of a river, creek, brook or other waterway from this list does not make it exempt from requiring a license to fish the fresh waters.
2. Names of waters conform to those given on the United States Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Topographic Series Maps.

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

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

Fish and Wildlife may revoke any permit or other authorization issued for violation or due cause.

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

Restricted Hours

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

Special permission may be granted for Fish and Wildlife approved activities.

Motor Vehicles

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

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

Target Practice

Only archery, shotgun, muzzleloading shotgun, muzzleloading rifle and .22 caliber rimfire rifle shooting is allowed in designated hunter training ranges according to posted regulations at the training area. Other target practice is allowed only with permission from the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Field Trials

Permits for use of Wildlife Management Areas for running of field trials may be granted by Fish and Wildlife. Apply for a permit by calling (609) 259-2132.

Dog Training and Exercising

Dogs may be exercised or trained on any WMA from Sept. 1 to April 30. All dogs must be properly licensed. Select WMAs with designated dog training areas also permit dogs to be exercised or trained from May 1 to Aug. 31. For more information, see the hunting issue of the *New Jersey Fish and Wildlife Digest* or call (609) 984-0547.

Outboard Motors

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

Horseback Riding

This is allowed only on designated WMAs with written permission. Apply online at www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ/. Horseback riding permits should be displayed on outer clothing while riding. For more information on horseback riding permits, call (609) 259-2132.

Fishing Tournament

Any club or organization that would like to use a New Jersey wildlife management area for fishing tournaments must apply for and secure a permit from Fish and Wildlife. No fee is required. Applications will be accepted in January at Fish and Wildlife's Southern Region office, 220 Anchor Rd., Sicklerville, NJ 08081 at (856) 629-4950.

Boat Ramp Maintenance Permit

Any vehicle used to transport or launch a vessel or water conveyance on the following WMAs must have affixed to the lower corner of the driver's side rear window a boat ramp maintenance permit, receipt from a valid hunting, fishing or trapping license, or a photocopy of a valid hunting, fishing or trapping license. Be sure your Conservation ID number is clearly displayed; all other personal information may be blacked out for reasons of privacy. The boat ramp maintenance permit fee is \$15, available from a license agent or at Fish and Wildlife's Internet sales site, www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ/.

Persons 70 years and older are not required to obtain a boat ramp maintenance permit and need no license, but must affix to their window proof of age, such as a former license displaying your date of birth.

1. Round Valley Angler Access
2. Kingwood
3. Assumpink
4. Dennis Creek
5. Tuckahoe
6. Mad Horse Creek
7. Union Lake
8. Menantico Ponds
9. Prospertown Lake

Create Your Own WMA Map

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has a Web-based tool called i-MapNJ. Those with Internet access can create maps for any Wildlife Management Area. i-MapNJ provides a wealth of other environmental information, too!

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

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

Those without Internet access can request a specific Wildlife Management Area by calling (609) 984-0547.

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

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Striped Bass



White Perch



Largemouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass



Redbreast Sunfish



Pumpkinseed Sunfish



Bluegill Sunfish



Black Crappie



White Crappie



Channel Catfish



White Catfish



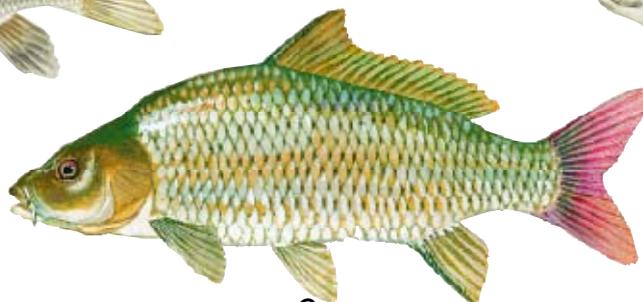
Brown Bullhead



White Sucker



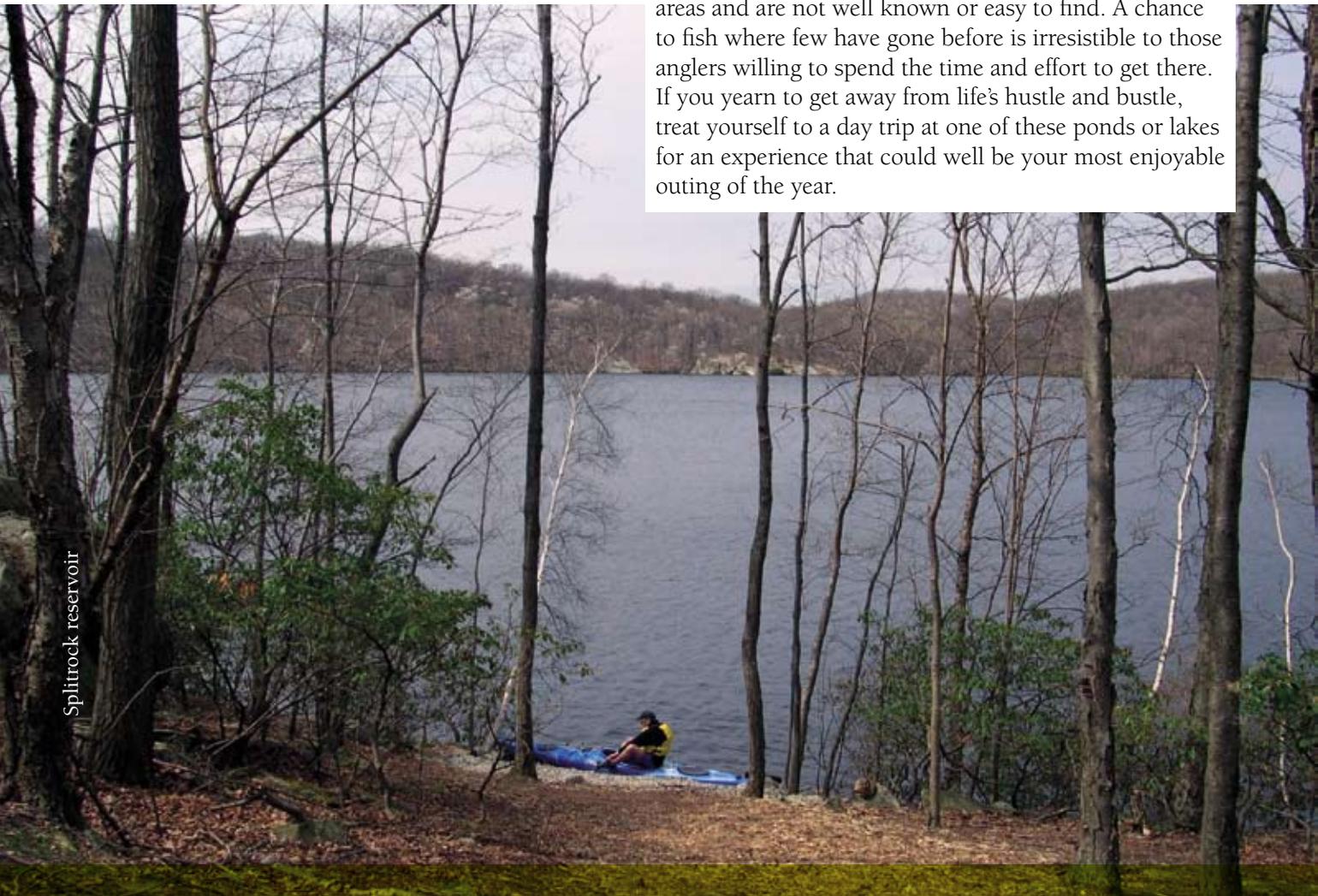
American Shad



Carp

Off the Beaten Path

Though New Jersey is the most densely populated state in the nation, little known treasures tucked away on public lands await anglers willing to venture off the beaten path. Through the state's Green Acres Program, tracts of land are acquired from willing sellers; some parcels have ponds and lakes formerly off limits to the general public. Some of these gems are found in remote areas and are not well known or easy to find. A chance to fish where few have gone before is irresistible to those anglers willing to spend the time and effort to get there. If you yearn to get away from life's hustle and bustle, treat yourself to a day trip at one of these ponds or lakes for an experience that could well be your most enjoyable outing of the year.



Splitrock reservoir

Quick Pond



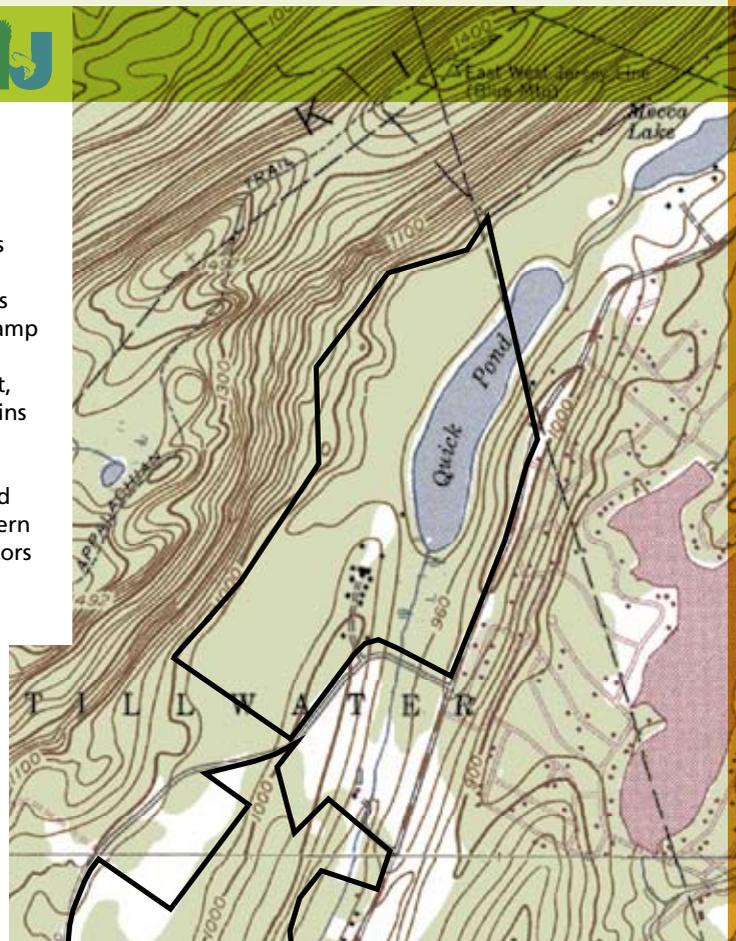
Stillwater and Hampton Townships, Sussex Co.

36 acres

Trout Brook Wildlife Management Area

Barely visible from the main road, this 36-acre natural pond lies within the Trout Brook Wildlife Management Area, not too far from Stokes State Forest. Stone pillars mark the entrance to this former summer camp, and a dirt road winds through the old camp down to the pond's lily pad-fringed edge. The adjacent swamp gives rise to the forested Kittatinny Mountain ridge to the west, and the water's brownish tea color is the result of natural tannins produced in the surrounding wetlands. In this picturesque and tranquil setting, largemouth bass, chain pickerel, yellow perch and sunfish abound. Shoreline fishing is possible though limited due to the mucky swamps and private homes that dot the eastern shore. Car top boat launching is available and only electric motors may be used (a modest boat ramp is in the planning stage). Boaters should proceed cautiously when navigating away from the boat launch to avoid hitting the submerged remnants of old docks. Although a minor obstacle to boating, these underwater structures are favored by fish and savvy anglers know to target this area as well as the open water pockets in and along the lily pads.

DIRECTIONS: From the center of Newton, take Rt. 206 north. After approx. 3 miles, make left onto Rt. 626, which will then merge with Rt. 521. Stay on Rt. 521 north, then turn left onto Rt. 617 (Lake Owassa Road). Entrance to pond is on the right (between stone pillars); follow road down to pond.



Ramapo Lake



Oakland Borough, Bergen Co./Wanaque Borough, Passaic Co.

120 acres

Ramapo Mountain State Forest

Nestled in the heart of the Ramapo Mountain State Forest and within the designated *natural area*, lies Ramapo Lake, accessible only by foot from one of two parking areas along scenic Skyline Drive. After ½- to 1-mile walk on a hard-topped road through a thickly wooded forest, the lake appears. Relatively deep (22 foot maximum depth) with dense aquatic vegetation in the shallow upper end, Ramapo Lake supports good largemouth bass, chain pickerel and quality panfish populations. Panfish are dominated by bluegill, yellow perch and black crappie. A dirt road around the lake's perimeter provides numerous shoreline fishing opportunities.

Motors are limited to electric only. Car-top boats such as aluminum jon boats, canoes, kayaks, and inflatable boats are permitted on the lake. These can be transported over the smooth road surface, particularly if you bring a small boat dolly. The road is not level.

DIRECTIONS: From Interstate 287, Exit 57, take Skyline Drive approximately 2 miles. Parking lots are located on the left.

Ryker Lake



Sparta Township, Sussex Co.

30 acres

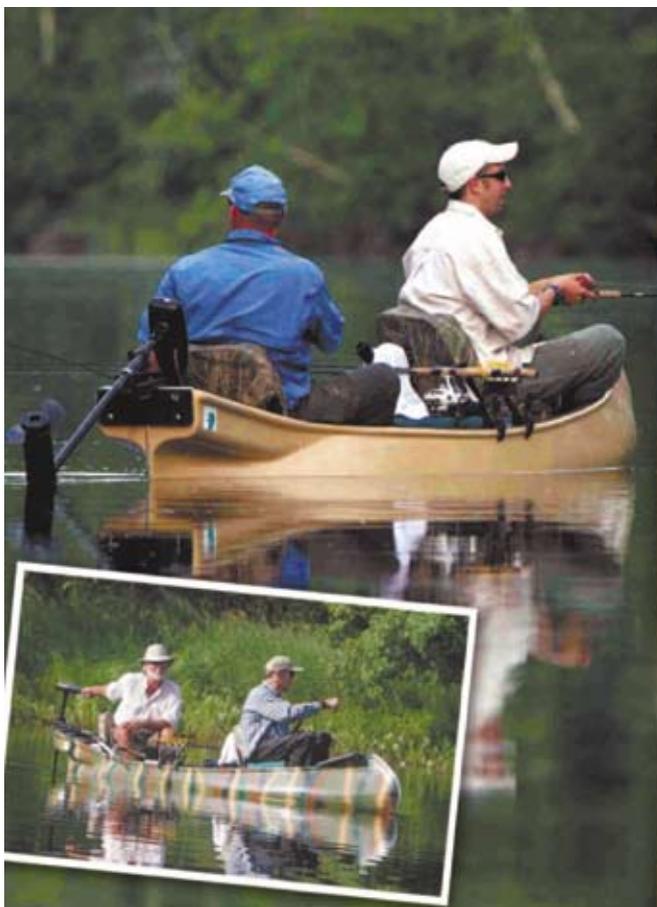
Sparta Mountain Wildlife Management Area

Ryker Lake is a relatively shallow (8-foot maximum depth) impoundment located within the Sparta Mountain Wildlife Management Area. This scenic lake is a ¼-mile drive down a dirt road from Edison Road. Boats (electric motors only) can be trailered or car-topped to the lake, however, there is no ramp. Therefore, after launching a boat your vehicle must be parked about 100 yards up the road. Most of the lake contains aquatic vegetation with a majority of the shallow areas being extremely dense making for challenging fishing. Shoreline fishing opportunities are limited by this dense vegetation and the predominantly wooded shoreline. The lake supports good largemouth bass and chain pickerel

populations and good numbers of large sunfish and yellow perch. The lake is currently managed under special "Conservation Regulations" to protect and maintain the quality panfish and largemouth bass fishery.

See regulations page 22.

DIRECTIONS: From Sussex County, take Route 15 to Glen Road or from Passaic County, take Berkshire Valley Road to Ridge Road. Take Glen or Ridge Rd to Edison Road, and proceed 100 yards to WMA entrance.



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Maple Lake

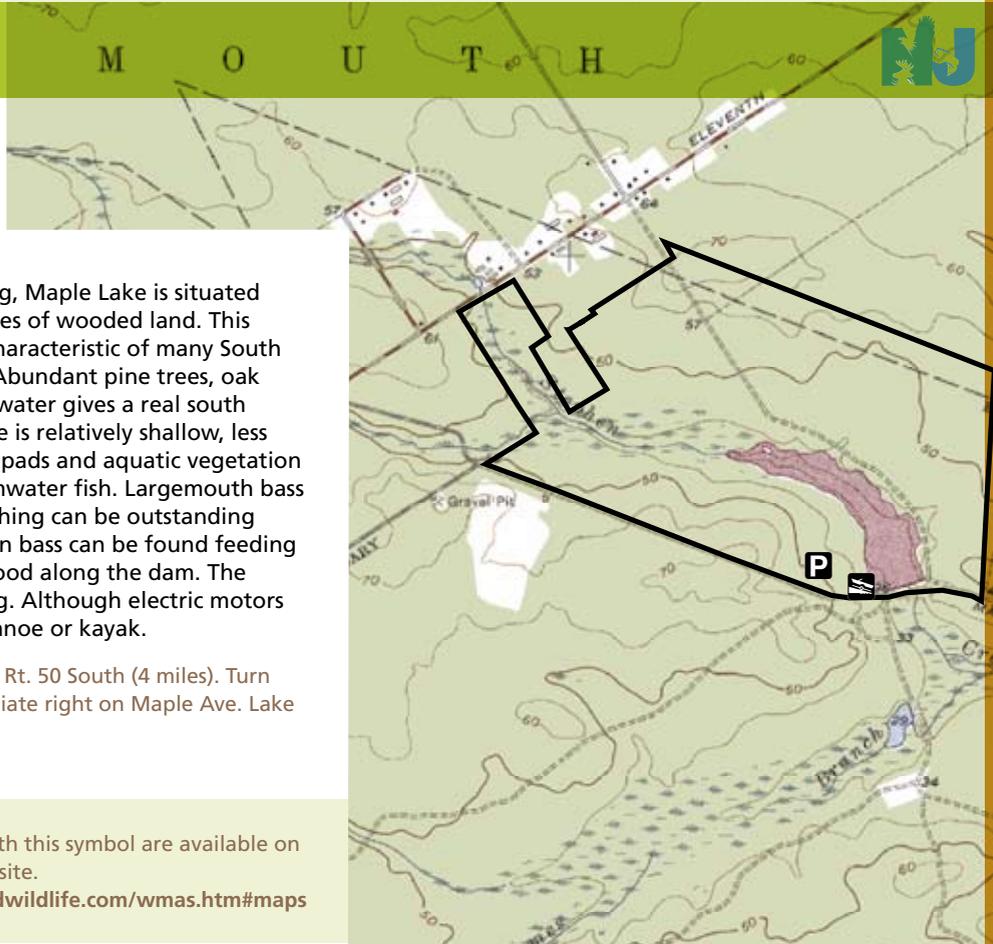
Estell Manor, Atlantic Co.

35 acres

Maple Lake Wildlife
Management Area

Although located off Rt. 50, and just four miles south of Mays Landing, Maple Lake is situated in the middle of several hundred acres of wooded land. This Wildlife Management Area lake is characteristic of many South Jersey lakes located near the coast. Abundant pine trees, oak trees, sandy soil and tannin-stained water gives a real south Jersey Pinelands experience. The lake is relatively shallow, less than 10 feet with ample stumps, lily pads and aquatic vegetation providing excellent habitat for warmwater fish. Largemouth bass and chain pickerel are abundant. Fishing can be outstanding during the hot summer months when bass can be found feeding on dragonflies. Shoreline access is good along the dam. The gravel boat ramp has limited parking. Although electric motors are allowed, the lake is ideal for a canoe or kayak.

DIRECTIONS: From Mays Landing, take Rt. 50 South (4 miles). Turn right on Walkers Forge Rd. and immediate right on Maple Ave. Lake is 2 miles on the right.



New Jersey WMA maps with this symbol are available on the Fish and Wildlife Web site.

Visit <http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/wmas.htm#maps>

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Maskell's Mill Pond



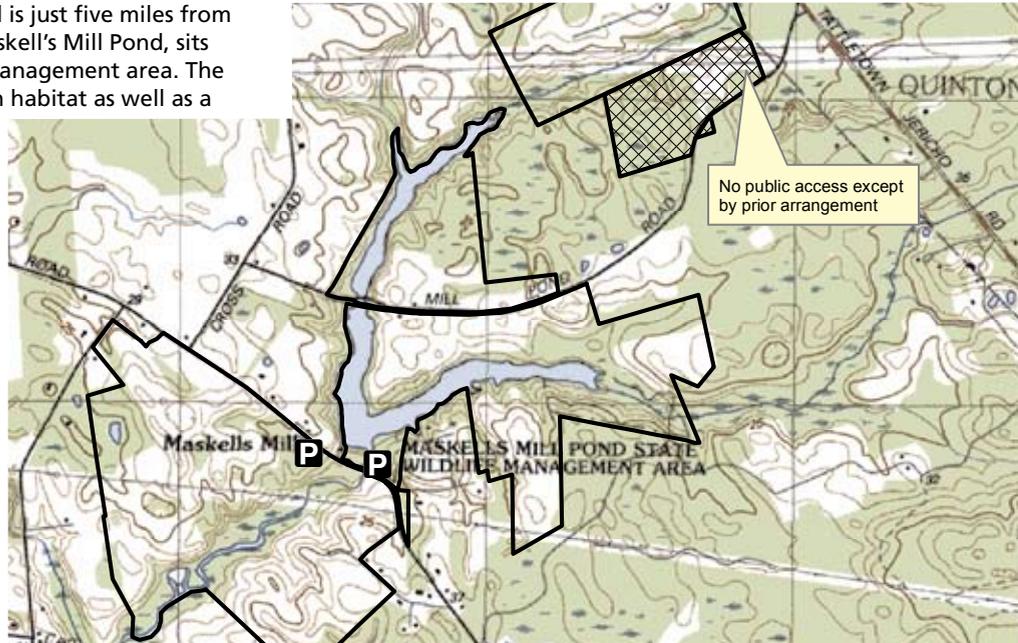
Lower Alloways Creek Township, Salem Co.

33 acres

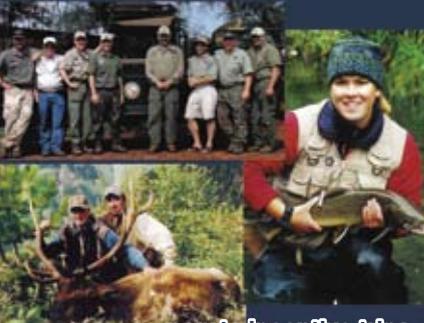
Maskell's Mill Pond Wildlife Management Area

This picturesque 33-acre impoundment is located in one of the most rural areas of South Jersey, and is just five miles from the Delaware Bay. Acquired in 1958, Maskell's Mill Pond, sits in the northern section of the wildlife management area. The wooded shoreline provides excellent fish habitat as well as a tranquil setting. The lake is relatively shallow and has abundant vegetation. The largemouth bass, black crappie, chain pickerel and sunfish populations are excellent. Parking is rather limited and boats can be launched at the dirt boat ramp located on Mill Pond Rd. Only electric motors are permitted and the lake is ideal for fishing from a canoe or kayak. Shoreline fishing is limited to areas near the dam and boat ramp. Anglers should be aware that several private residences and a private camp share a portion of the lake's perimeter; the rest is publicly accessible state property.

DIRECTIONS: From Millville, take Rt. 49 West toward Bridgeton. Turn left at Harmersville-Pecks Corner Rd. Turn left on Cross Rd. Turn left at Mill Pond Rd.




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Smoked Lake Trout Recipe

By Bob Papson, Principal Fisheries Biologist

Smoking fish is a delicious alternative to traditional cooking methods. Oily fish like salmon and trout are well-suited to smoke cooking. Lake trout are excellent smoked and probably the tastiest preparation method. Preparing and smoking fish is a little time consuming, however, you can smoke a large amount at one time and the finished product is well worth the effort. Smoked fish make an excellent appetizer for special celebrations or as a snack while watching Monday night football.

Preparation

Smaller 15- to 20-inch lake trout are the perfect size for smoking. Clean the fish by cutting the belly open, removing the guts, tail and head then rinse well with water. Smoked fish can be prepared fresh or freeze your catch until you have a good amount to smoke.

Two key factors in successful smoke cooking fish are correct use of the smoke oven (smoker) and the brining process.

Basic Fish Brine

- 1 gallon water
- 2 c salt
- ¼ lb. dark brown sugar
- 3 oz. lemon juice
- ½ Tbs. liquid garlic
- ½ Tbs. liquid onion

(crushed fresh onion and garlic may be substituted for liquid)

First dissolve the salt in water. Add the remaining ingredients and mix thoroughly.

Optional Seasonings

Dill may be added to the brine. For a subtle flavor variation, substitute honey or blackstrap molasses for the brown sugar, especially with salmon.

Smoking Procedure

Place whole, cleaned fish (or fillets for larger fish), skin on, in a large plastic, glass or earthenware container, then add brine. Leave fish in brine for a minimum of three hours. To control the degree of salt absorption, vary the immersion time. Brining overnight (8 - 12 hours) works well.

Remove fish from brine and rinse lightly in fresh water. Place fish on wire racks to dry completely before smoking. Outdoors in a cool, breezy, shady location works well. Drying can also be done indoors with a fan. It is important that fish are thoroughly dry (about one to three hours) until a thin, glossy layer – called the pellicle – forms on the surface.

The pellicle takes on an attractive color in the smoke oven. It is believed to aid in preservation of the smoked fish.

Hot Smoking

Hot smoking requires temperatures between 85° and 250° F, in effect a cooking process. I prefer smoking fish at approximately 180° F. Arrange lake trout on wire racks and place in the smoke oven.

Various wood species impart a different smoke flavor to the fish. Alder or a combination of alder and hickory are often recommended for fish. Commercially-packaged wood chips are readily available at sporting goods stores.

Whole lake trout (15 to 20 inch size) can be smoked for around four hours, adding wood as needed to maintain the smoke. Check fish periodically for the amount of moisture remaining. Adjust the finishing time to suit how moist or dry you like your fish. Remove fish from smoker and let cool completely.

Storage

For storing smoked fish, remember that drier fish keep longer. Wrap each fish separately in waxed paper or aluminum foil and refrigerate. Smoked fish will keep for two weeks. Freeze a portion of the batch immediately after smoking for up to two to three months.

In smoke cookery as in other arts, there are few rigid rules; follow the basic guidelines and experiment with seasonings and various wood types for variety.



Smoked fish are a real gourmet delight that are certainly worth the effort. Be sure to share your culinary creation with family and friends; no doubt they will agree.

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— Richard Friedenberg - Screenwriter, "A River Runs Through It"

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Muskellunge (6 – 8")

- Carnegie Lake (500)
- Cooper River Park Lake (400)
- Deal Lake (560)
- Delaware River (4,525)
- D & R Canal - 10 mile (200)
- Echo Lake Reservoir (800)
- Furnace Lake (263)
- Greenwood Lake (4,066)
- Lake Hopatcong (2,650)
- Lake Shenandoah (250)
- Little Swartswood Lake (400)
- Manasquan Reservoir (1,560)
- Mercer Lake (700)
- Monksville Reservoir (440)
- Mountain Lake (330)

Northern Pike (6")

- Budd Lake (2,750)
- Cranberry Lake (2,600)
- Farrington Lake (3,500)
- Millstone River (2,800)
- Passaic River (5,600)
- Pompton Lake (3,660)
- Pompton River (2,400)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (10,500)

Walleye (2 – 4")

- Canistear Reservoir (26,110)
- Delaware River (105,000)
- Greenwood Lake (47,900)
- Lake Hopatcong (131,780)
- Monksville Reservoir (10,150)
- Swartswood Lake (10,250)

Hybrid Striped Bass (4")

- Lake Hopatcong (25,380)
- Manasquan Reservoir (7,284)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (13,095)

Smallmouth Bass (2")

- Manasquan Reservoir (11,000)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (13,000)
- Union Lake (3,000)

Lake Trout (8.5")

- Merrill Creek Reservoir (3,400)
- Monksville Reservoir (2,047)

And thousands of channel catfish, black crappie, bluegill sunfish and brown bullheads stocked in over 100 waterbodies located throughout the state!

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New Jersey's **Trout** **Stocking** **Program**

Spring Stocking

- Over 570,000 brook, brown and rainbow trout
- Average size: 10.5 inch and ½ pound
- An additional 6,000 breeders 15 to 21 inches (3 - 6 pounds)
- Most waterbodies stocked at least three times
- 100 streams and 80 lakes stocked statewide
- All 21 counties stocked
- 180,000 trout released for Opening Day - April 5, 2008
- Stocking continues for seven weeks following Opening Day

Fall Stocking

- First two weeks in October
- All large, two year old trout, measuring 14 to 16 inches
- 20,000 trout stocked
- 30 streams, lakes & ponds
- 1,000 Rainbow trout breeders, averaging 20 inches
- Best chance to catch big trout

Winter Stocking

- Third week of November
- All large two year olds, measuring 15 to 16 inches
- Over 5,000 trout
- 24 lakes and ponds
- Great fishing all winter long!

Sea Run Brown Trout

- Lower Manasquan River
- 15,000 7 - 8-inch brown trout
- Try this elusive fishery!

Compliments of New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's Pequest State Fish Hatchery



CleanwaterNJ Campaign

Anglers as Environmentalists

By Bruce Friedman, Supervisor
Division of Water Quality, Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control

When you are sitting at your favorite fishing spot or in your boat on the water, have you ever taken a look around – a *really* good look?

Unfortunately in some areas, you're going to see trash - water bottles, food wrappers, newspapers, containers, beer cans, cigarette butts, plus worm containers, fishing tackle packaging and monofilament. What were those people thinking? Trash and litter have become a real problem, a problem that impacts us all.

Environmentally, trash negatively affects the habitat and wildlife that most outdoors people strive to protect. Many can recall a scene from the 1975 movie thriller *Jaws* when Sheriff Brody and Matt Hooper eviscerate a tiger shark and pull out trash from its digestive tract.

It's a shame that for many New Jersey waterbodies, trash is not just movie fiction. Various marine mammals and larger predatory fish eat free-floating trash and debris, mistaking it for their normal prey. Many of these animals die from impacted digestive tracts, or they stop feeding and die from starvation.

Take another look at the water surface where you fish, particularly in lakes and ponds. You may notice an abundance of algae and aquatic plant life. While some of this is natural, too much plant growth can kill off fish through a process, eutrophication, which results in decaying vegetation and low dissolved oxygen levels in the water. In such lakes and ponds, an overabundance of algae and plant life can be caused by nutrients that originate from over-fertilizing – or improperly fertilizing – our lawns and gardens.

So what can you do that will make a difference? The first step is essential: you must respect the environment and convey that respect to your family. This means you don't litter, and you teach your children not to litter. Wherever you go, carry out what you carry in. Leave nothing behind and be sure the woods, stream or lake shore looks like no one was ever there. Take an extra moment to clean up after others. Pick up that paper blowing down the street, take a few bottles out of the woods and recycle them at home.

You can get involved and participate, even just for a few hours. Sign up your family for a litter march or beach clean-up walk. Encourage your business, organization or sportsman club to "Adopt a Highway."

In your own backyard, be sure to read and follow the directions on every fertilizer bag before application and don't apply just before a rainfall. Make sure that your fertilizer spreader does not overspray onto

driveways and sidewalks. If it does, brush or blow it back onto your lawn to prevent fertilizer run off into storm sewers when it rains, ultimately affecting water quality elsewhere.

As outdoorsmen and outdoorswomen, we must each do our part to conserve the natural resources we value. The degree of involvement is up to you, whether you're very active or you just do something simple like picking up a piece of litter.

We all want to see good stewardship of the natural lands and waters we enjoy when hunting, fishing, hiking and more. The wildlife we seek are dependent on the health of the ecosystem in which they live. Without clean and plentiful water, there would be no healthy populations of fish, game or shellfish to pursue. Keep our waters clean.

For more information on stormwater and nonpoint pollution visit www.cleanwaternj.org.



BY BOB PAPSON, PRINCIPAL FISHERIES BIOLOGIST

BE A RESPONSIBLE ANGLER



In recent years several fish pathogens (disease-causing microbes) have been detected and have spread through several regions of the United States and Canada causing fish kills and presenting major concerns for both fisheries agencies and anglers. Outbreaks of Viral Hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS), and Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPN) have appeared in neighboring states. In 2006, Largemouth Bass Virus (LMBV) was found in New Jersey's Lake Hopatcong, and in 2007, was detected in Greenwood Lake, Assunpink Lake, Union Lake, Swartswood Lake, Cooper River Park Lake, Farrington Lake and Spruce Run Reservoir.

Fortunately, these viruses pose no human health risk, but they do pose a significant risk to fishery resources.

Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS)

Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia is a serious pathogen of fresh and saltwater fish now causing an emerging disease in the Great Lakes region of the United States and Canada. This virus has the potential to have serious regional consequences in the northeast. VHS can cause hemorrhaging of fish tissue, including internal organs, and can cause the death of infected fish. Once a fish is infected with VHS, there is no known cure.

Perhaps the most alarming concern with VHS is that it knows no immune species or habitat boundaries, as it has been confirmed in 19 coolwater and five coldwater species. The virus is implicated in kills of many of the most popular game fish species such as muskellunge, walleye, smallmouth bass, crappie and bluegills while other game fish have been identified as carriers such as northern pike, chinook salmon, steelhead, lake trout and channel catfish.

Sport fishing on the Great Lakes is a multi-billion dollar industry. The potential economic impact of the virus on this fishery is currently unknown. Ecologically, the impacts of VHS are equally uncertain. This virus has the potential to alter the delicate predator-prey relationships. Both predators (like muskellunge) and prey species (such as perch and crappie) are equally at risk.

THE POTENTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE VIRUS ON THIS FISHERY IS CURRENTLY UNKNOWNABLE. ECOLOGICALLY, THE IMPACTS OF VHS ARE EQUALLY UNCERTAIN.

Clinical signs of VHS may include tissue hemorrhaging (bleeding), unusual behavior, anemia, bulging eyes, bloated abdomens, and the rapid onset of death; however, these symptoms could apply to numerous fish diseases. There is no clear visual diagnostic symptom to confirm VHS. Additionally, not all infected fish

show signs; however, these fish may become carriers of the disease. The only way to confirm VHS is to test the fish in a laboratory.

Largemouth Bass Virus (LMBV)

Largemouth Bass Virus (LMBV) first gained attention in 1995 when it was implicated in a fish kill on Santee Cooper Reservoir, South Carolina. Other large fish kills have been reported in the late 1990s and first years of this century, mostly in the southeastern United States. Since then, research and monitoring has shown the virus reaching the southeast, Midwest and northeast states. Reports from the Northeast Black Bass Technical Committee (2006) documented that LMBV has been detected in seven of ten northeast states where testing has occurred.

Thus far, Largemouth Bass Virus-related kills appear to be minor compared with kills from other causes. These smaller kills still received considerable attention

because largemouth bass is the nation's most popular game fish.

Fisheries scientists around the country are studying the virus and its impact on the resource. More research is needed to determine if LMBV will have long-lasting effects on bass populations. Numerous incidents across the country show LMBV does not cause long-term harm to fisheries. Anglers reported catching fewer bass following some kills (especially larger fish), there is evidence that an infected fishery will recover within a year or two.

However, recent research in Alabama has shown that where the virus was known to exist but has not caused a fish kill, the waterbody experienced a significant decline in the abundance of largemouth bass. The same research noted sub-lethal effects on largemouth bass that include reduced condition factors and growth rates.

LMBV is not limited to infecting only largemouth bass; it has been found in other centrarchids, all members of the sunfish family. However, the virus usually causes death only in largemouth bass. It is believed that stress triggers the disease manifestation of the virus; recall that LMBV-infected fish may show no sign of disease until stressed. Stressful factors include hot weather, poor water quality, pollution, crowding in livewell tanks, frequent handling by anglers, and other pathogens. Besides fish, LMBV has been found in other cold-blooded animals like amphibians and reptiles.

Scientists suggest that LMBV will become an enduring element in certain aquatic ecosystems and a regular component in natural selection of affected species.

Other Diseases

There are eight major pathogens considered to be especially problematic to both wild and cultured fish populations. In addition to VHS and LMBV, these pathogens include: Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis

(IHN), Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPN), Bacterial Kidney Disease (BKD), Bacterial Furunculosis (BF), and Bacterial Redmouth (BRM) and Whirling Disease (*Myxobolus cerebralis*).

Fish and Wildlife Monitoring Program

During the summer of 2007, New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife collected a minimum of 20 largemouth bass for disease testing from 12 waterbodies statewide. These included waters with major largemouth bass fisheries which attract boat anglers who fish throughout the state – as well as out-of-state – including at tournaments and on waters with lesser bass angling activity. This sampling will provide a good cross-section from which to determine the distribution of LMBV and possibly the presence of VHS in New Jersey.

Fish were processed at the Lebanon Fisheries Field Office laboratory; samples were sent to the Lamar Fish Health Center for testing. Additional sampling is planned for 2008.

Spreading Disease

Viruses and bacterium which cause these diseases can be transferred in a variety of ways. The movement of fish from one waterbody to another poses a serious risk for disease spread. These transfers also may be through importation, fish stocking or baitfish use. Disease can be transferred by fish-to-fish contact, such as in live wells or bait buckets, or by predatory fish consuming infected prey. Other potential avenues for spreading aquatic pathogens are natural fish movement, recreational boating, birds, ballast water discharge and even sampling activities. Some viruses can survive in water (without a host) for up to seven days, and can be transferred via boat live wells, trailers and waders.

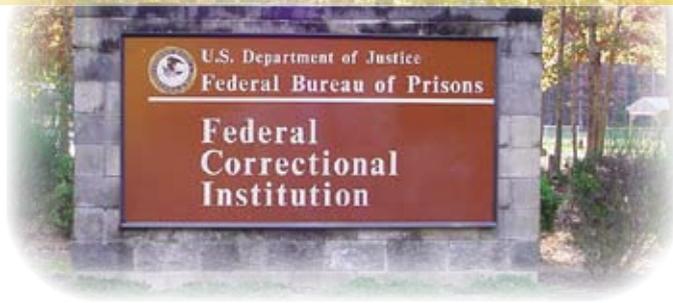
Anglers' Role

Angler and boater cooperation is critical to minimizing the potential for the spread of fish disease and other aquatic invasive species by taking the following steps:

- ☛ Do not move fish or fish parts from one body of water to another.
- ☛ Do not release live bait into any water body.
- ☛ Switch to rubber-soled boots instead of felt
- ☛ Remove all mud, aquatic plants and animals from all gear, boats, motors and trailers before leaving a body of water.
- ☛ Drain your live well, bilge and bait tanks before leaving the water you are fishing or boating on.
- ☛ Thoroughly clean and dry livewells, boats, trailers and other equipment between fishing trips. A light bleach solution is an excellent disinfectant for cleaning equipment (1 cup for 10 gallon of water). A good treatment for livewells is a ¼ cup of chlorine bleach per gallon of water. Make sure the contact time with bleach is at least 5 minutes (In a waterbody known to contain VHS, clean and disinfect live wells and bait wells with a 10 percent chlorine/water solution). Rinse well to remove all residual chlorine.
- ☛ After cleaning, allow boats, trailers and other equipment to fully dry for four to six hours in the sun.
- ☛ Handle fish as gently as possible if you intend to release them.
- ☛ Refrain from hauling fish for long period in live wells if you intend to release them.
- ☛ Stage weigh-in tournaments during cooler weather, so fish caught will not be so stressed. Utilize "paper" tournaments during hot weather, with anglers measuring and immediately releasing them.

Fairton's *Fin-tastic* Facility

Ron Jacobsen, Fisheries Technician



Humming pumps can be heard in the background. Pipes appear to travel in every direction, carrying the essential water supply – around the clock – to the four, 500-gallon tanks occupying a large corner of the room. Thousands of sunfish and *Gambusia* (mosquitofish) swim back and forth awaiting their next meal from the overhead feeders. From all angles this looks like a state fish hatchery. Who would guess this fish-rearing facility is a federal prison?

Located in the heart of Cumberland County lies the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) – Fairton and within its gates an intensive aquaculture facility. Each year since 1999, in coordination with the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Hackettstown Hatchery, FCI Fairton raises 3,000 channel catfish, largemouth bass, sunfish and *Gambusia*. The catfish, bass and sunfish are stocked in local waters for youth fishing derby programs, while the *Gambusia* are utilized as non-chemical, biological mosquito control support, particularly in South Jersey.

Raising fish at the prison was the innovation of Jake Jablonski, vocational training instructor at FCI Fairton for 18 years. Developing such a program matched with the Millville resident's outdoor sporting pursuits of hunting and fishing. Mr. Jablonski wrote the proposal to obtain a federal grant for developing a vocational fish aquaculture project at a correctional institution. Once the grant was secured, Mr. Jablonski created a curriculum and textbook for the aquaculture course.

Aquaculture classes were taught to FCI Fairton inmates by Kurt Powers (retired), then Supervising Biologist for the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries Fish Culture Unit. Powers also helped design the initial aquaculture system at the prison. Although early experiments with trout were not entirely successful, they provided valuable knowledge for the current efforts rearing *Gambusia* and sunfish.

In recent years, an outdoor aquaculture system was added to the facility, consisting of four 2,000-gallon tanks. These tanks – constructed from galvanized corrugated culvert pipes measuring 12 feet across by 5 ½ feet deep – have greatly expanded the rearing capabilities to the current level of producing 3,000 fish. The FCI Fairton aquaculture program allows Fish and Wildlife to carry out stocking programs in southern portions of the state, an area less easily served by New Jersey's only warmwater hatchery located 2½ hours north in Hackettstown.

Mr. Jablonski's involvement in the aquaculture and horticulture vocational training programs at FCI Fairton are ongoing "works of passion" that yield real benefits to society. Inmates participating in the programs can earn a full apprenticeship in their chosen vocation, increasing their employment marketability upon release from prison.

If running a full-scale aquaculture facility isn't enough, Mr. Jablonski's other endeavors at FCI Fairton include horticulture and landscape courses where they constructed a small pond. Last spring, five mature largemouth bass spawned naturally in the pond and produced approximately 1,000 fingerlings. The fingerlings will be grown to a larger size and used at future youth fishing derby events.

At the other end of the spectrum, Mr. Jablonski sees the result of his efforts first hand when he volunteers to transport and stock Fairton-raised fish into local lakes and ponds in Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem counties at youth fishing derbies. Mr. Jablonski enthusiastically provides an educational presentation at each event and helps children become successful anglers.

The partnership between the Federal Correctional Institution – Fairton and New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has been mutually beneficial. Interested inmates get involved in a constructive, educational and rewarding activity, while New Jersey anglers benefit from enhanced recreational opportunities.



Teen Anglers

**First Annual Hackettstown
Teen Anglers Youth Day - June 28, 2008**



**5th Annual Pequest
Teen Anglers Youth Day - July 26, 2008**



The 2008 National Teen Angler Challenge:

This spring and early summer, submit the weight of fish you've caught to enter the National Teen Angler Challenge. Teen Angler staff will determine the winners in each fish category (trout, bass, musky, etc.) for all participating states. Winners will have a guest spot on the Teen Anglers TV, program featuring winning teens from

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



New Jersey Teen Angler Chapters:

Garfield New Jersey
John Nasuta
phantombuckusa@optonline.net

Northwest New Jersey
James Newquist
14 Tinc Rd.
Flanders, NJ 07836
papanuke@verizon.net
(973) 584-4576

Millville and Cape May
Court House
Frank Breakell
(609) 425-9401

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- Protection and enhancement of natural lands and waters
- Preservation of traditional outdoor sports



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Wildlife Collage by Irene Bowers

Daiwa MEGAFORCE® Baitcaster

The new Megaforce® baitcasters offer smooth, dependable performance, blazing fast 7:1 retrieve and the bass-enticing advantages of Daiwa's exclusive Twitchin' Bar™ – all at a price any angler can afford.

When bass prefer a slower, finesse-type presentation, use the Twitchin' Bar feature to impart a subtle twitching motion to a jig or plastic worm with a simple push of the thumb. The resulting action works a lure slowly and methodically around underwater structure, invoking an aggressive response from even finicky bass. A single push on the Twitchin' Bar also lets you pick up seven inches of slack line instantly with just one hand – no cranking necessary. When the fish are more active, you can employ the Megaforce Baitcaster's speedy 7.1:1 gear ratio to cover water quickly and effectively with a variety of reaction baits.

For more information, check out Daiwa's website: www.daiwa.com



Wild Water Fly Fishing



Wild Water's complete starter package is ideal for anyone that wants to get started in fly fishing without investing a lot of money. The starter package features a high quality 5wt rod and reel combo. The reel comes to you with backing, floating line, leader and tippet installed. This package also comes with a fly box and 3 common fly patterns—Parachute Adams, a Black Ant and a Hare's Ear Nymph. This package is the ultimate value in fly fishing packages for \$108.90, with a Lifetime Warranty.

For more information on Wild Water Fly Fishing visit the website at www.wildwaterflyfishing.com or call 315.237.1077.

Quantum Tour Edition PTi

New for 2008, the Tour Edition PTi spinning reel series marks a new level in high performance spinning technology. Combined with a new lightweight skeletal titanium handle and 12 PT hybrid polymer-stainless steel bearings, no other spinning reel comes close to the performance this reel offers. Add the scratch-resistant titanium vacuum deposition coating and a re-designed LMS line management system, and not only do you have the best performing reel on the market, but the best looking as well. For more information check out Quantum's website: www.quantumfishing.com



G.Loomis 'Xperience' Fly Rods

New for '08 - If you're new to fly fishing, looking for an addition as a back-up, or need a specific size for a unique situation or occasional trip, G.Loomis now offers its new Xperience fly rod series with models to handle just about any kind of fresh and saltwater action. The series includes 10 rods in a three-weight size up to twelve weight, and retail from \$265 to \$345.

"We set a goal to provide the best we could in terms of blank materials, guides a new reel seat design and top-grade cork handles," said Gary Schaefer with G.Loomis' product development staff, "while keeping them at a price that would appeal to beginner and novice anglers, and also for those fly fishing enthusiast looking for special extra rod that's easy on the wallet."

For more information on G.Loomis' new Xperience fly rod, and the name of the dealer nearest you, visit the G.Loomis web site www.gloomis.com



Grasshopper Outdoor products, Ltd of New York introduces the monoMASTER™



What lasts longer, Empires, buildings or monofilament? Monofilament, probably. It lasts up to 600 years!

This lightweight and easy to use device takes all worry out of waste mono disposal. Attach it to your fishing vest or

drop it into your tackle box. Use it each time you generate a tag end while changing flies and lures or if you get a whole tangled birds-nest or busted up leader. The monoMASTER stores anything from an inch to several feet and has a capacity for a season's worth of waste monofilament. When it's full, empty the waste into a trash can and you're good to go.

The monoMASTER has received an official endorsement from the Federation of Fly Fishers and will be available in stores and in the Orvis supplement catalog in May 2008. Can't wait? You can order your monoMASTER right now for \$9.99 by visiting www.grasshopperproducts.com

Woo Dave's Signature Series

The Woo Dave's Signature Series have been carrying on a tradition for over 6 years. Even though some of the original shoes are still being sold by retailers today, the major part of the line has been updated and improved.



The shoes are lighter, more comfortable and more functional than ever. The uppers feature water-resistant Nubuc leather for durability, with aerospace® mesh for breathability. A new removable, superior polyurethane orthotic insert is added for uncompromised comfort.

The entire line has been made extremely flexible and when a Vibram slip-resistant outsole is added, there is nothing better in the Marine-Casual footwear category.

Find out more at www.prolineboots.com

Orvis Frequent Flyer® Travel Rods

If a newspaper can fit in your carryon, so can these rods. Frequent Flyer® rods are built to The Orvis Company's exact taper designs, component, and production specifications; every step of the overseas production is supervised by Orvis. Each rod is subject to the same rigorous inspection in Vermont as any Orvis rod. Take a Frequent Flyer Fly Rod on your next fly fishing trip!

Frequent Flyer® Fly Rods feature: Packable 7 piece fly rod design, 16" - 17.75" collapsed, Aluminum oxide guides and hard chrome tip top, Alignment dots for easy assembly, and AA grade cork. Freshwater Rods feature a silver anodized aluminum reel seat with dark green woven graphite spacer while the saltwater rods feature a black hard anodized aluminum reel seat.

Both come complete with a Cordura-covered fly rod case with sleeve dividers.

Frequent Flyer® rods are guaranteed for life against defects in material or workmanship.

See more at www.ORVIS.COM



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Skillful Angler Awards Program

The Skillful Angler Awards Program is designed to supplement the New Jersey Record Fish Program. It is comprised of three categories: Adult (for anglers age 16 and older), Junior (under age 16) and Catch and Release (based on length). A clear, side-view photo that allows accurate species identification must be included with each application. All photo entries become property of the Division of Fish and Wildlife and will not be returned.

The Skillful Angler Awards program acknowledges that many anglers catch freshwater and marine fish that are not record size, but are still worthy of recognition because the size and weight of the fish sufficiently tested the angler's skill. The program is open to resident and non-resident anglers. All fish must be caught in New Jersey waters using a hook and line during legally open seasons.

Anglers qualifying for a Skillful Angler award receive a certificate and a bronze pin to adorn their fishing hat or jacket. Only one pin and certificate per species regardless of category will be awarded annually to each participant, but an angler may submit applications for larger fish caught even after receiving a pin.

At the end of the year, special recognition is given to anglers who catch the largest fish in each species category. The winner of each category receives a special commemorative gift recognizing his or her accomplishment as the best of New Jersey's Skillful Anglers.

Fish must be measured from the tip of the nose (with mouth closed) to the tip of the tail. For Adult/Junior categories, fish must be weighed and measured by fishing license agents, tackle shops or authorized Fish and Wildlife fisheries biologists.

Minimum requirements for each freshwater species:

	Adult Weight (lbs., oz.)	Junior Weight (lbs., oz.)	Catch and Release (inches)
Largemouth bass	6	4	21"
Smallmouth bass	4	3	19"
Striped bass hybrid	8	6	24"
Striped bass	30	25	40"
Bullhead	2	1 lb., 8 oz	14"
Carp	25	20	35"
Channel catfish	10	8	29"
Crappie	2	1 lb., 8 oz	14"
Muskellunge	20	15	40"
Yellow perch	1 lb., 8 oz.	1	13"
Chain pickerel	4	3	24"
Northern pike	10	8	34"
American shad	7	5	24"
Brook trout	3	2	19"
Brown trout	8	5	25"
Lake trout	12	8	31"
Rainbow trout	5	3 lbs., 8 oz.	23"
Sunfish	1	12 oz.	9"
Walleye	6	4 lbs., 8 oz.	24"

Note: The New Jersey State Record Fish Program requires a separate application and is based on weight alone. Scale certification documentation and a weighmaster's signature are necessary. Other rules apply. Visit Fish and Wildlife's Web site at www.njfishandwildlife.com for a complete list of current state records.

New Jersey Skillful Angler Application

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Telephone Number (_____) _____

Entry Category (check only one):

Adult Junior (16 years and under)

Catch and Release (Qualification based on length)

Fish Species (Angler must complete. Subject to verification by a state biologist.)

Weight _____ lb.(s), _____ oz. **Length** _____ in. **Girth** _____ in.

Date Caught ____/____/____ **Time** _____

Location _____

Caught from (check only one):

Boat Shore Surf Jetty

Other (specify) _____

Line Test Used _____ **Reel Type** _____

Rod Type _____ **Lure/Bait** _____

Certification for Adult and Junior Categories

Name of establishment where fish was measured and weighed

Telephone Number _____

Weighmaster's Name _____

Weighmaster's Signature _____

I certify: 1.) this fish was caught in New Jersey waters in accordance with state laws and regulations; 2.) the entry was weighed on a certified scale (for Adult and Junior categories only).

Applicant's Signature _____ **Date** _____

* Applications and photo must be submitted **within 30 days** of catching the fish.

Applications for fish caught in December will be accepted only until January 31.

Mail to:

NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife
Skillful Angler Awards Program
Pequest Natural Resource Education Center
605 Pequest Rd.
Oxford, NJ 07863

New Jersey State Record Freshwater Sport Fish

The Record Fish Program honors the largest species of fish caught in New Jersey. It revolves around a specific list of eligible freshwater and saltwater species, and is based on weight alone; there are no line classes. Scale certification documentation, specifically the Certificate of Inspection/Test Report and Registration Certificate issued by the New Jersey Office of Weights and Measures as well as a weighmaster's signature are necessary. Other rules apply.

The Record Fish Program now accepts 103 species: 31 freshwater, 72 saltwater. The objective of this program is to increase awareness of fishing opportunities for species that are regularly sought and routinely found in or off the New Jersey coast.

For more information, an application or a complete list of state record fish, visit New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's Web site at www.NJFishandWildlife.com.

Species	Lbs.	Oz.	Year	Angler	Where Caught
Bass, largemouth	10	14	1980	Robert Eisele	Menantico Sand Wash Pond
Bass, rock	1	5	1982	Eric Avogardo	Saddle River
Bass, smallmouth	7	2	1990	Carol Marciniak	Round Valley Reservoir
Bluegill	3	0	1990	Dom Santarelli	Farm Pond in Pennington
Bowfin	8	4	1988	Craig Raffay	Lake Tranquility
Bullhead, brown	4	8	1997	Gary Schmidt	Lake of Woods, Ft. Dix
Carp	47	0	1995	Billy Friedman	South Branch of Raritan River
Carp (archery)	42	1	1987	John Puchalik	Delaware River
Carp, grass	50	0	2001	Steve Babilino	Garrison Lake
Carp, grass (archery)	59	12	2006	Mark Kronyak	Delaware River
Catfish, channel	33	3	1978	Howard Hudson	Lake Hopatcong
Catfish, white	14	4	2004	Timothy Jasko	Dallenbach Pond
Crappie, black	4	8	1996	Andy Tintle	Pompton Lake
Crappie, white	2	14	2005	Dean Montemore	Mill Pond
Eel, American	6	13	2005	David J. Payne	Round Valley Reservoir
Muskellunge	42	13	1997	Bob Neals	Monksville Reservoir
Muskie, tiger	29	0	1990	Larry Migliarese	Delaware River
Perch, white**	3	1	1989	Edward Tango	Forest Hill Lake
Perch, yellow	2	6	1989	Gene Engels	Holiday Lake
Perch, yellow*	4	4	1865	Charles Abbott	Crosswicks Creek
Pickereel, chain	9	3	1957	Frank McGovern	Lower Aetna Lake
Pickereel, redfin	1	13	1982	Gerald Humphrey	Lake Assunpink
Pike, Northern	30	2	1977	Herb Hepler	Spruce Run Reservoir
Salmon (landlocked)	8	0	1951	John Mount	Lake Aeroflex (formerly New Wawayanda)
Shad, American	11	1	1984	Charles Mower	Delaware River
Striped Bass	51	0	2002	John Christian	Great Egg Harbor River
Striped Bass, hybrid	16	4	1999	Bill Schmidt	Culvers Lake
Sunfish, pumpkin-seed	1	8	1987	Daryl Donalson	Farm Pond in Burlington County
Trout, brook	7	3	1995	Andrew DuJack	Rockaway River
Trout, brown	21	6	1995	Lenny Saccente	Round Valley Reservoir
Trout, lake	32	8	2002	Greg Young	Round Valley Reservoir
Trout, rainbow	13	0	1988	Gene Rutkoski	Lake Hopatcong
Trout, sea run brown			**Vacant** (Minimum Weight 5 Lbs.)		
Walleye	13	9	1993	George Fundell	Delaware River

* Denotes historical record
 ** Denotes fish has been certified by the IGFA as a world record

Stop the Spread of Invasive species!

Invasive Fish Species such as Northern snakeheads, flathead catfish, koi or goldfish must not be stocked or returned to the water! If you catch a northern snakehead or flathead catfish immediately call Fish and Wildlife at (908) 236-2118.

Snakehead—INVASIVE (Do NOT Release!)

Note long anal fin.



Bowfin—NATIVE (OK to Release!)

Note short anal fin.



Flathead Catfish (Do NOT Release!)



Must have all three characteristics:

- 1) Upper white lobe on caudal fin,
- 2) Protruding lower jaw,
- 3) Tail NOT deeply forked

It is illegal to transport any fish, including game species, from one waterbody to another. It is illegal to stock any fish in New Jersey without a Permit!



ZEBRA MUSSELS have already cost millions to boaters, industries, towns and cities in the Great Lakes and along the Mississippi.

- **DRAIN** all water from bait buckets and live wells
- **REMOVE** all weeds from boats and trailers
- **CHECK** boats and motors for zebra mussels
- **DRY** boats and trailers completely between launches

DON'T HELP THEM SPREAD !

- ❖ Zebra mussels look like small clams with a yellowish or brownish "D"-shaped shell, usually with alternating dark and light colored stripes.
- ❖ They can be up to two inches long, but most are under an inch. Zebra mussels usually grow in clusters containing numerous individuals and are generally found in shallow, nutrient rich water.
- ❖ Zebra mussels are the **ONLY** freshwater mollusk that can firmly attach itself to solid objects—rocks, dock pilings, boat hulls, water intake pipes, etc.
- ❖ Note the date and precise location where the mussel or its shell was found.

How to Identify It

- ❖ Take the mussel (several if possible) with you and store in rubbing alcohol. **DO NOT THROW IT BACK IN THE WATER**
- ❖ **IMMEDIATELY** call Dr. Michael Weinstein, New Jersey Sea Grant Headquarters, (732) 872-1300 extension 21

What to Do

Courtesy of University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute

Health Advisory

For Eating Fish And Crabs Caught In New Jersey Waters *Fish Smart – Eat Smart*

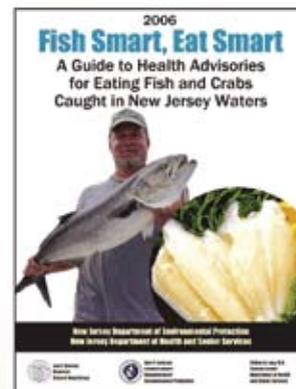
Fishing provides enjoyable and relaxing recreation. Fish are an excellent source of protein and other nutrients and play a role in maintaining a healthy, well-balanced diet. Many anglers enjoy cooking and eating their own catch. However, elevated levels of potentially harmful chemical contaminants, such as dioxin, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides and mercury have been found in certain fish and crabs in some New Jersey waters. Fish consumption advisories have been adopted to guide citizens on safe consumption practices.

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

Check online for fish consumption advisories on the local water body in which you fish!

Go to FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org

The new FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org is a user-friendly site designed to help you decide what fish are best for you to consume. The Fish Smart-Eat Smart Fish Advisory Web site includes a Geographic Information System (GIS) map linked to current fish consumption advisories statewide. For example, to see the latest mercury or PCB advisories for your area, just select the county by clicking on the map. The page shows the water body location, fish species and any advisories that apply. This feature makes it easy to find current fish consumption advisories for the specific waterbody in which you fish.



To reduce exposure to harmful chemical contaminants when preparing and eating the fish species taken from the identified waters, it is essential to follow the guidelines provided. The DEP encourages you to consult the Fish Smart-Eat Smart Fish Advisory Guide or www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org when making decisions about eating recreationally caught fish and crabs.

The Fish Smart-Eat Smart Advisory Guide includes contaminant information, advisory charts, plus preparation and cooking methods to reduce contaminant levels, as well as specific guidelines, advice and prohibitions for people at high risk, such as children, pregnant women and women of child-bearing age. The Guide also includes Web site links to Pennsylvania, Delaware and New York for information about fish consumption advisories for shared waters.

The fish consumption advisories, Fish Smart-Eat Smart Web site and Advisory Guide are each updated periodically and are available in print or online through these agencies:

The Fish Advisory Guide is available by contacting the following:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Public Access Center (609) 777-DEP4 or www.state.nj.us/dep

Division of Science, Research and Technology
(609) 984-6070 or www.state.nj.us/dep/dsr

Division of Fish and Wildlife
(609) 748-2020 or www.NJFishandWildlife.com

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services
Consumer and Environmental Health
(609) 588-3123 or (609) 777-3373
www.state.nj.us/health/eoh/foodweb/fishguid.htm

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www.NJFishandWildlife.com

New Jersey's FREE Freshwater Fishing Days

June 7 and 8, 2008



On these two days, residents and non-residents may fish New Jersey's public fresh waters without a license or trout stamp. All other regulations, including size and daily catch limits, remain in effect.

Grants available to help teachers get fishing education into their curriculum

Health and physical education teachers can receive up to \$2,500 to establish a fishing and/or boating program in their schools. The grant is open to all K-12 health and physical education teachers who are members of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Training is five days. Application deadline: Jan. 21, 2008

For more information on the physical-education grants, visit the Future Fisherman Foundation at www.futurefisherman.org/pegrant. To learn more about fishing opportunities for students, contact Jessica Griglak of New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife at (908) 637-4125 or visit www.NJFishandWildlife.com.



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Special Interest to Anglers DEP Publications

www.NJFishandWildlife.com

Item	Cost	Web site	Source
Accessible Fishing Sites For People With Disabilities	free	yes	1
Commercial (fee based) Fishing Preserves in NJ	free	yes	1
Delaware River Boat Access	free	yes	1
Disabled Veterans-Free Fishing License application	free	yes	1
Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians of NJ—book	\$10	no	4
Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians of NJ—CD	\$10	no	4
Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians of NJ—book/CD set	\$18	no	4
Fish Consumption Advisory PCB/Mercury	free	yes	1
Lake Survey Maps—specify waterbody	free	yes	1
Large Format Freshwater Fishing Digest	free	no	1
List of Fishing Guides	free	yes	1
Manasquan River Fishing Access Areas	free	yes	1
Motor Vehicle Boat Regulations	free	no	1
Places to Fish (ponds, lakes, reservoirs, rivers and streams)	free	yes	1
Record NJ Fish	free	yes	1
Skillful Angler Awards Program—brochure w/ application	free	yes	1
State Parks & Forests Maps	free	no	3
USGS Topographic Maps	\$10	no	2
Visually Impaired—Free Fishing License application	free	no	1
Warmwater & Coolwater Stocking List	free	yes	1
Wildlife Management Area Maps—Specify name of WMA	free	yes	1
Wildlife Viewing Guide—book	\$15	no	4

- 1 NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife, PO Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400 (609) 292-2965
- 2 NJ Geological Survey, Maps & Publications, Sales Office, PO Box 438, Trenton, NJ 08625-0438 (609) 777-1038
- 3 DEP, Div. Parks & Forestry, PO Box 404, Trenton, NJ 08625-0404 (800) 843-6420 Specify name of park.
- 4 NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife, PO Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400 Make check payable to Conserve Wildlife Foundation.

Please write item requested on the outside of envelope.

Get on the Lists

The Freshwater Fisheries e-mail list, that is. This free service provides the latest information about Fish and Wildlife events, public hearings and other matters related to our freshwater fishing resources. And we have seven other lists so you can maximize your enjoyment of New Jersey's fish and wildlife resources. Sign up today at www.NJFishandWildlife.com/lstsubm.htm.

New Jersey's Accessible Fishing Sites for People With Disabilities

Visit www.NJFishandWildlife.com/sites.htm

An Accessible Fishing Sites list is available to assist anglers whose mobility is impaired.



All sites are wheelchair-accessible except for the Musconetcong River in Morris County, where vehicle access is to the shoreline.



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Alison Babin

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FWT07



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Kids Can Let Their Creativity Go Wild in NJ Fish Art & Writing Contest

New Jersey students in grades four through eight are invited to enter New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's 2008 Fish Art and Writing Contest to win special prizes, including a chance to go fishing at the Pequest Trout Hatchery & Natural Resource Education Center on opening day of trout season.

Contestants will create an original drawing or painting of a fish found in New Jersey, depicted in its natural habitat. The artwork may be acrylic, watercolor, oil, oil pastel, crayon or ink. Finished size should be 8 x 10 inches.

Contestants must also submit a 500-word essay on the same fish species, preferably typed, and must include details on where in New Jersey the fish is found, its habits, habitat and fish ecology.

Entries must be postmarked by **Friday, March 7, 2008**. All entries become the property of Fish and Wildlife and cannot be returned.

This art and writing contest is based on the Aquatic WILD activity "Fishy Who's Who," designed for grades five through eight. For details and a full description of this educational activity, visit Fish and Wildlife's Web site: www.NJfishandWildlife.com. This activity helps teachers meet the following New Jersey Science Standards:

- 5.5 Life Science 5.10 Environmental Studies
- Grade 4: A1, A2 Grade 6: A1, B1
- Grade 6: C1
- Grade 8: B1, B2



Sixth grader Eric Kang of Mount Pleasant Middle School took first place in his category.

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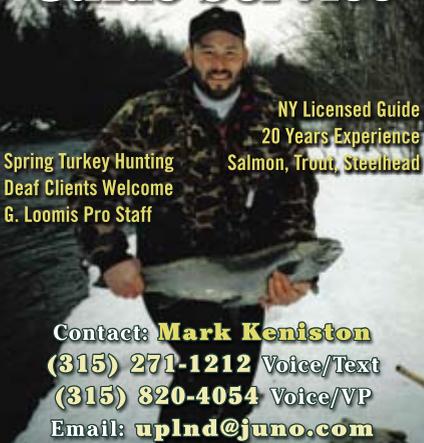
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