

New Jersey's **STOCKING PROGRAMS**

TROUT STOCKING

Raised with pride at New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife's Pequest Trout Hatchery

SPRING

- Over 570,000 brook, brown and rainbow trout
- Average size: 10.5 inches and ½ pound
- An additional 6,000 breeders 15–21 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 10, 2010
- Stocking continues for seven weeks following Opening Day

FALL

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

WINTER

- All large two year olds, measuring 15–16 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!

WARMWATER STOCKING

Raised with pride at New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife's Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery

MUSKELLUNGE—8-12"

- Carnegie Lake (500)
- Deal Lake (350)
- DOD Lake (300)
- D & R Canal—10 mile (300)
- Echo Lake Reservoir (525)
- Furnace Lake (375)
- Greenwood Lake (2,228)
- Lake Hopatcong (2,075)
- Lake Shenandoah (150)
- Little Swartswood Lake (300)
- Manasquan Reservoir (1,500)
- Mercer Lake (690)
- Monksville Reservoir (610)
- Mountain Lake (385)

NORTHERN PIKE—6"

- Budd Lake (7,620)
- Cranberry Lake (11,220)
- Deal Lake (2,820)
- Farrington Lake (4,155)
- Millstone River (2,800)
- Passaic River (13,502)
- Pompton Lake (2,858)
- Pompton River (2,083)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (8,196)

WALLEYE—2-4"

- Canistear Reservoir (26,920)
- Delaware River (317,000)
- Greenwood Lake (47,195)
- Lake Hopatcong (115,791)
- Monksville Reservoir (32,788)
- Swartswood Lake (52,820)

HYBRID STRIPED BASS—4"

- Lake Hopatcong (28,879)
- Manasquan Reservoir (11,299)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (15,607)

SMALLMOUTH BASS—2"

- Lake Audrey (2,633)
- Manasquan Reservoir (2,318)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (919)
- Union Lake (2,565)

LARGEMOUTH BASS—2-4"

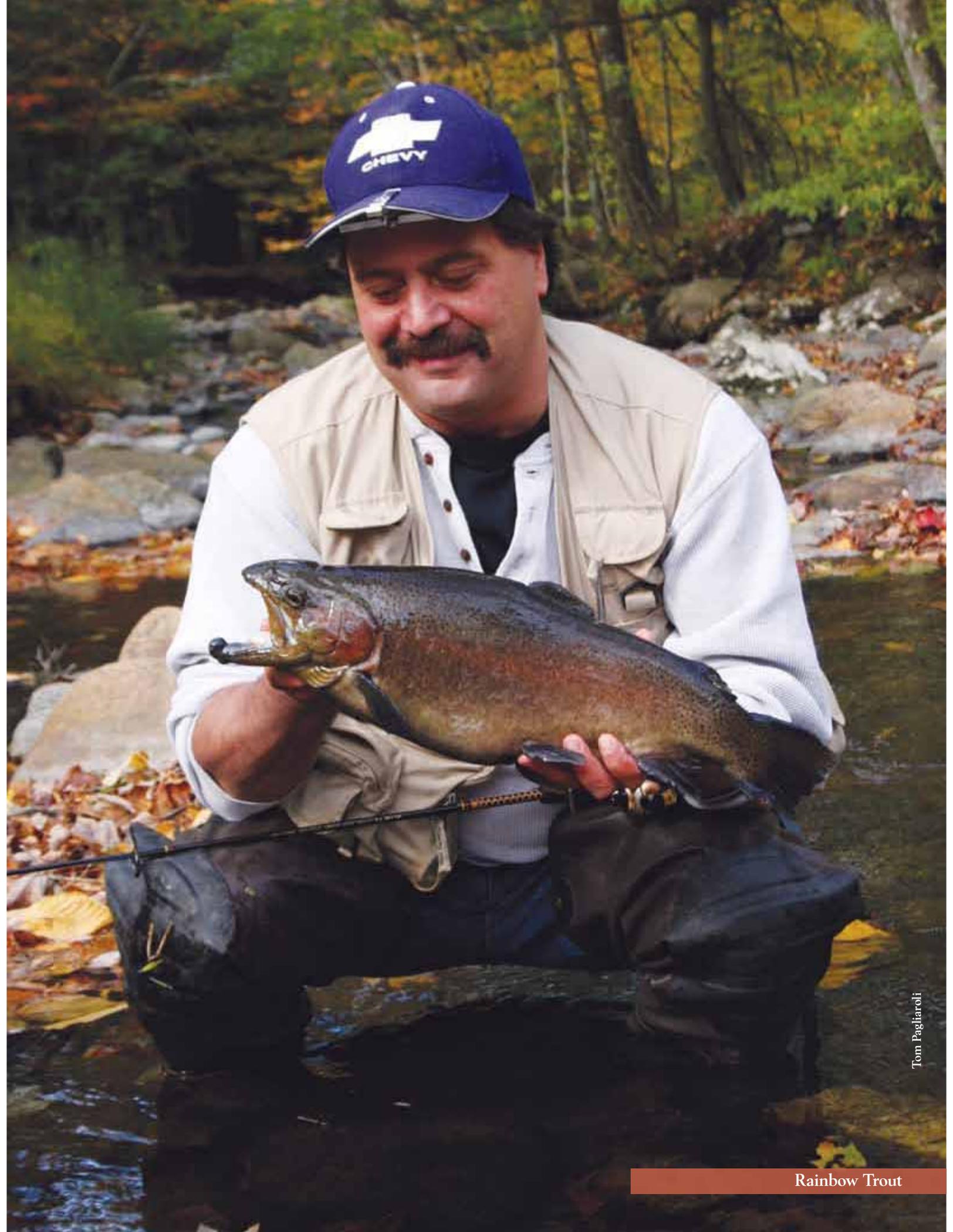
- Bostwick Lake (6,660)
- Budd Lake (2,500)
- Hammonton Lake (1,000)
- Harrisonville Lake (1,500)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (1,600)
- Sylvan Lake (7,844)
- Union Lake (5,000)
- Upper Echo Lake (4,380)

LAKE TROUT—7"

- Merrill Creek Reservoir (3,650)
- Monksville Reservoir (3,000)

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

The Hackettstown Hatchery is located in the heart of Hackettstown. It encompasses over 230 acres, consisting of over 65 extensive culture ponds, and a large intensive culture building. The hatchery raises and distributes over 1,500,000 each year, representing 15 species of fish.



Tom Pagliaroli

Rainbow Trout

Who's "Right?"

Angler and Landowner Rights in New Jersey

By Pat Hamilton, Principal Fisheries Biologist

Fishing is a timeless tradition enjoyed by people of all ages, and New Jersey offers an outstanding variety of fishing opportunities in streams, ponds and lakes throughout the state. People new to the sport—or new to New Jersey—often have questions pertaining to fishing regulations and where they can go fishing. Read on for answers to questions most often asked by novice and experienced anglers alike.

Who owns the water and the fish?

All fresh waters within New Jersey, and the wildlife that resides in them, are held in the public trust by the state.

Do I need a freshwater fishing license?

A fishing license is required of all New Jersey residents, age 16 through 69, and all nonresidents 16 years and older to legally fish fresh waters. There are just a few notable exceptions. Farmers (and immediate family members who live on the farm) may fish on their own farm without a license, plus people fishing at licensed "pay-to-fish" facilities need no license. If you are not one of these exceptions, you do need a license, even when fishing a privately owned lake or stream in your backyard or neighborhood.

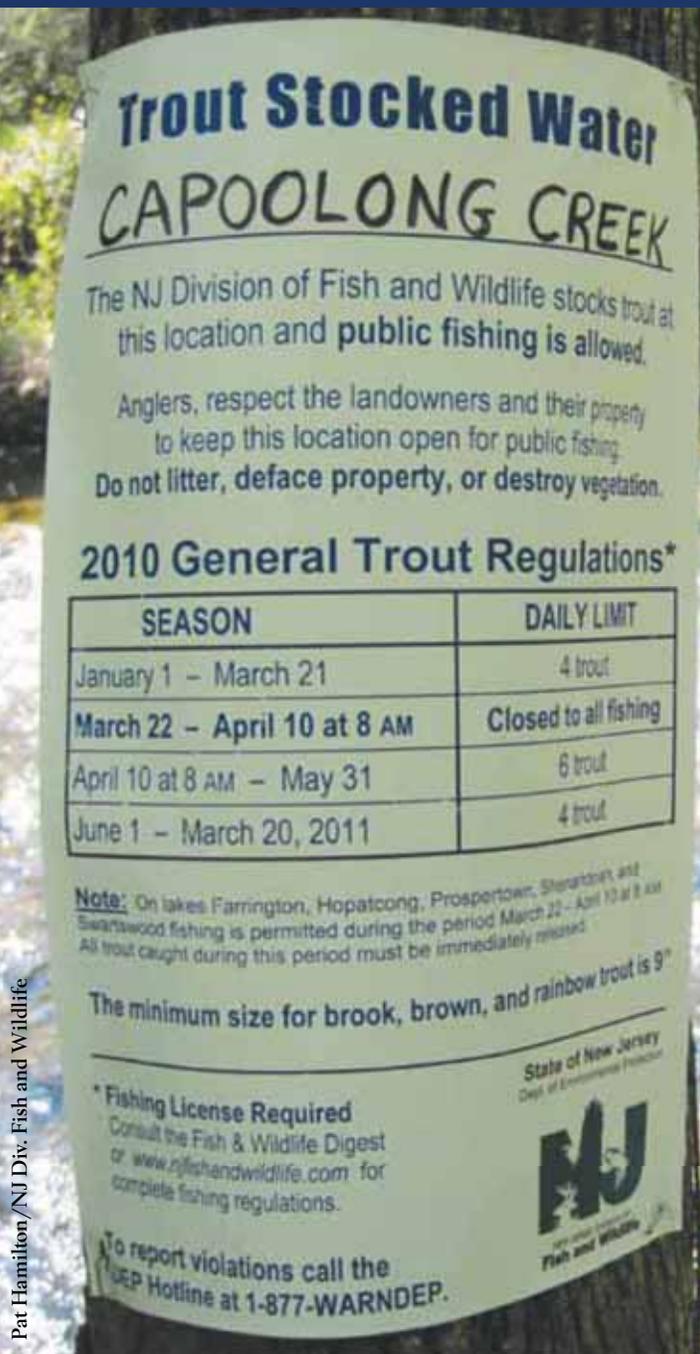
In addition, licensed anglers, ages 16 through 69 and nonresidents 16 years and older, who take or attempt to take trout (both stocked trout and wild trout) must also purchase a trout stamp. Resident anglers 70 and older need only use their driver license (or other document that includes their date of birth and physical description) to serve as a fishing license.

May I fish wherever I want?

No. Although the fresh waters of the state, and the wildlife inhabiting them, are held in public trust, access rights fall to the landowner. Keep in mind that a landowner may own not only the land adjacent to a waterbody, but also all or a portion of the stream or lake bed. Even when wading (while fishing) you are standing on someone's property.

In New Jersey, landowners are not obligated to grant public access. Landowners who chose not to allow the general public on their property effectively exclude public fishing, but at the same time the owner may choose to allow an individual or fishing club exclusive access rights, thereby creating a private fishery.

Determining whether or not a landowner allows public fishing can be difficult, especially when searching for new waters to fish. Fish and Wildlife supports an *ask first* policy when accessing unfamiliar lands. Local tax maps are useful to identify landowners and property



Pat Hamilton/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

lines. Sometimes the landowner on one side of the stream allows public fishing while the neighbor on the other side does not. Anglers should know that the landowner is within his or her right to ask you to leave, so maintaining a respectful demeanor can avoid an unpleasant outcome.

Does Fish and Wildlife stock privately owned waters?

Surprisingly, yes, but only when the private landowner allows unrestricted access to the general public for fishing. Through the good graces of these landowners, Fish and Wildlife is able, for example, to stock more stretches of popular trout streams for public fishing. *Trout Stocked Water* signs, which state the applicable trout regulations for the waterbody, are typically posted at locations on both public and private land where trout are stocked and public fishing allowed.

Sadly, over time, some privately-owned areas that were once open to the public for fishing have been closed due to a change in ownership, worries about lawsuits or problems caused by inconsiderate people. It is critically important that anglers be respectful of landowners and their property. Do not trample shrubs or flowers, deface property, or leave trash behind (bait containers and fishing line are a telltale sign of impolite anglers). Pick up after your fellow angler if necessary. These simple measures demonstrate respect for the landowner, the land (and the water) and can help insure that private lands remain open to public fishing.

Is it OK to fish a stream flowing through privately-owned land as long as I am traveling by boat or not touching the bottom?

Navigation laws allow the public to traverse navigable waters (such as rivers and streams) by boat (canoes and kayaks included). These rights even allow for the occasional need to get out and walk a watercraft around obstructions when necessary. The law, however, does not have provisions for allowing other associated activities such as fishing. So it is best to avoid fishing from a boat while navigating on waters that flow through private land, unless you are certain the landowner allows public fishing.

What fishing regulations apply when fishing waters on privately-owned land?

Anglers must comply with all applicable state fish laws and regulations when fishing, regardless of land ownership. Private fishing clubs, lake associations, municipalities, and counties occasionally impose more stringent fishing regulations (such as catch and release or a higher minimum size) on waters under their control. Although such self-imposed fishing regulations are not enforceable under the state's fishing regulations, other legal means to enforce them may be available to the property owner through the court system. So when fishing new waters it is always best to check with the landowner to be sure you are aware of all applicable regulations.

Where may I go fishing?

Your best approach, especially for those just learning the sport, is to select streams, ponds and lakes that are publicly owned by the federal, state, county or municipal governments. Most of these waters are open for public fishing, free of charge. A great guide to public fishing areas, *Places to Fish*, is available online at our Web site, NJFishandWildlife.com. Here you can find a long list of waters open for public fishing, as well as what fish species are present and other helpful information. Many other small publicly-owned ponds (too numerous to list) are also open for public fishing. Also on our Web site are driving directions to popular trout fishing locations. 

▶▶ 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**

New!

Field Guide to Dragonflies and Damselflies of New Jersey

By Allen E. Barlow, David M. Golden and Jim Bangma

*Published by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Fish and Wildlife*



• Detailed characteristics of 182 species

• 334 beautiful color photographs

• New Jersey range maps

• Field ID by behavior

• Seasonality and locations for viewing

A wealth of information about New Jersey's dragonflies and damselflies!

Proceeds benefit rare wildlife conservation in New Jersey.

Send \$29.95 plus \$3.50 shipping and handling to Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey, PO Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400. Or visit our Web site to order online (www.ConserveWildlifeNJ.org) or by phone at (609) 984-6012.

Photo: Allen Barlow



If you care about:

- Wise management of fish and wildlife populations
- Protection and enhancement of natural lands and waters
- Preservation of traditional outdoor sports

Then get involved!

- Stay informed on issues affecting NJ sportsmen and sportswomen
- Make an impact on outdoor issues
- Meet others who share similar sporting interests
- Have fun and participate in Federation-sponsored activities: jamborees, clay target shoots, tournaments, dinners, conventions, and more!

Membership:

- ___ \$35 Includes monthly newspaper and \$1 million excess liability insurance
- ___ \$20 Monthly newspaper only

Name _____

County _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Do have homeowner's/renter's insurance? (circle one) Y / N

Insurance Company: _____

Policy #: _____

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NJSFSC • PO Box: 10173 • Trenton, NJ 08650

Join online at

www.njsfsc.org



2010 New Jersey Musky School

**May 15
Lake Hopatcong**

You *don't* want to miss the annual Musky School on Lake Hopatcong offered by Muskies Inc.! Learn how to catch these elusive fish. This course offers informative tips and techniques to help any musky angler—beginner to experienced angler—catch more muskies. Learn from our seasoned veteran anglers. In the morning, classroom-style sessions will orient anglers on locations to fish, forage base, lure presentations, fishing tactics and more. Later in the day, participants will be on the water in a fully-equipped boat to pursue muskies with a personal instructor. This six-hour course includes a shore lunch. This is a catch and release event.

Fee: \$300

Contact Kevin via e-mail at johnsonke@optonline.net
Or by phone (201) 563-2554

At Musky School, you will learn:

- Seasonal musky patterns and lure presentations
- Proper fishing gear selection – rods, reels, leaders and line
- How to land, handle and properly release musky

**For more information, visit our Web sites
www.mi22.com and www.MuskiesInc.org**

Muskies Inc. is a non-profit organization.

This is a fundraising event.

All proceeds benefit the New Jersey musky fishery.

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After 5:00 PM call Jeff or Vern Mancini (908) 638-8747 or Email: muskytrhatchery@embarqmail.com

▶▶ 2010 NATIVE FISH ART AND WRITING CONTEST ANNOUNCED!

Students in grades 4–7 can learn about New Jersey’s native fish as they research and write a short story about a year in the life of the native fish of their choice. The story must include biological and ecological information such as the fish’s habits and habitat, food, etc. Then, using their artistic skills, students must draw a scene from the short story. Students might want to use the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife Web site as an online resource to learn about New Jersey’s native fish.

First and second place winners are awarded for each grade level from 4–7. Winners receive a rod and reel plus a certificate. First place winners also receive a youth membership to Trout Unlimited.



First Place, Grade 6: **Lucy Wang of Holmdel**

All winners are invited to attend a special luncheon and awards ceremony at the Pequest Trout Hatchery on Opening Day of Trout Season, April 10, 2010. Prior to the luncheon, students will have the opportunity to fish in our Education Pond.

The contest is sponsored by the New Jersey chapters of Trout Unlimited.

Entries must be received by **Friday, March 5, 2010.**

For more information, see NJFishandWildlife.com/fishart.htm.



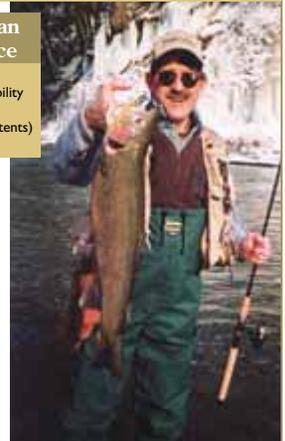
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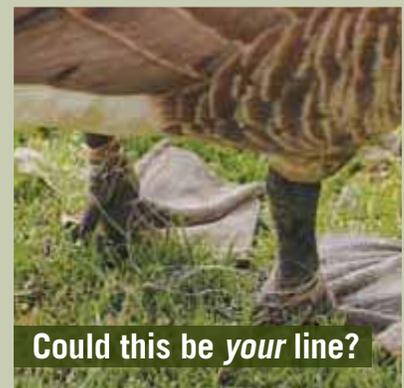


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▶▶ WARNING: WILDLIFE HAZARD

Please properly dispose of all fishing line. Plastic debris can endanger aquatic life and snare propellers.



Shyam Menon

New Jersey State Record Freshwater Sport Fish

The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's Record Fish Program honors anglers who catch the largest of select species of freshwater and saltwater fish. Record size is based on weight alone; there are no line classes. Currently there are 31 freshwater species eligible for entry into the program.

Anglers are reminded that the objective of the Record Fish Program is to increase the awareness of fishing opportunities for species that are regularly sought and routinely found in the freshwaters or off the coast of New Jersey.

Anglers should also be aware that several procedural changes are now in effect for the Record Fish Program. First, there are different applications for freshwater and saltwater species. Second, for freshwater species, it is now mandatory that a freshwater biologist confirm the identification and weight of any potential record fish within three days of it being caught. Anglers must call Fish and Wildlife's Lebanon Fisheries Office at (908) 236-2118 (Hunterdon County), the Hackettstown Hatchery at (908) 852-4950 (Warren County), or the Southern Region Office at (856) 629-4950 (Camden County) to make arrangements. Hours are Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. These offices have a certified scale on site, so an entry can be weighed and identified. Depending on the time and location of your catch, you may elect to have the fish weighed on a local certified scale, but you must still have a freshwater biologist personally confirm the identification and weight at one of the above offices. Please note that all scale certification requirements still apply,



New State Record Northern Pike!

John Viglione of Ringwood proudly displays his new state record northern pike. This 30-pound, 8.5-ounce fish was reeled in from Pompton Lake and measured 46 inches long.

including a valid Certificate of Inspection/Test Report and current Registration Certificate issued by the county Office of Weights and Measures. Lastly, there is a new entry deadline. Applications must now be submitted no later than one month after the date of catch. All other program rules still apply.

For a complete list of state record fish or to print an application with complete program rules, visit the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Web site at NJFishandWildlife.com/recfish.htm.

New Jersey State Freshwater Records

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)	43	14	2008	Mark Kronyak	Delaware River
Carp, Grass	54	7	2008	Homer Tye	Curlis Lake
Carp, Grass (Archery)	65	0	2008	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	3	11	2009	William Lewis	Mercer Lake
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

Species	lbs.	oz.	Year	Angler	Where Caught
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	8.5	2009	John Viglione	Pompton Lake
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, Pumpkinseed	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



After she slipped the hook in the waters of Greenwood Lake the previous day, Kevin Johnson pursued this 45-inch musky with a customized Suick lure dubbed "Sparky."

Skillful Angler Awards Program

The Skillful Angler Awards Program is designed both to supplement the New Jersey Record Fish Program and to acknowledge 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. 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. 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.

Make a splash! High quality, scenic fishing photos are encouraged. For prints, submit to: NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife, Digest Editor, P.O. Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400 or send digital images to Cindy.Kuenstner@dep.state.nj.us. Send only high resolution (300 dpi) "original" digital photos. Low resolution versions intended for viewing on-screen do not match criteria for this publication. Prints/slides cannot be returned and become the property of New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife for use in this or other publications and on our Web site. Be sure to include a daytime phone number so we may confirm details about the photo.

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:

Species	Adult Weight (lbs., oz.)	Junior Weight (lbs., oz.)	Catch & 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

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 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).

I have enclosed a clear, side-view photo.

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