

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. Regulations in red are new this year. Purple text indicates an important note.

## Licenses

- A valid New Jersey fishing license is required for residents at least 16 years and less than 70 years of age (plus all non-residents 16 years and older) to fish the fresh waters of New Jersey, including privately owned waters.
- Resident anglers age 70 and over do not require a fishing license. A driver's license or other acceptable proof of age containing date of birth and physical description will serve as the actual fishing 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 at least six months to obtain a resident fishing 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.
- Anyone convicted of a second fish or wildlife violation in this or another state within a period of five years will have his or her New

Jersey sporting licenses revoked for a minimum of two years.

## Trout Stamps

A valid fishing license and trout stamp are both required to fish for or possess trout and salmon for all anglers (residents and non-residents) 16 and over, and residents under the age of 70. No trout stamp is required for residents age 70 years and over.

## Purchasing a License

Licenses may be purchased by phone at (888) 773-8450, online at [www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com](http://www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com) or at license agents such as sporting goods stores plus bait and tackle shops. Visit our Web site at [NJFishandWildlife.com](http://NJFishandWildlife.com) for details, or call (609) 292-2965. The Trenton Fish and Wildlife office is no longer open to the public for license or permit sales.

## 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.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com](http://www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com) also linked through our regular Web site at [NJFishandWildlife.com](http://NJFishandWildlife.com) or by phone at (888) 773-8450.

## 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 Veterans Licenses, Stamps and Permits

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

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

New applicant disabled veterans may obtain

their hunting and fishing licenses and stamps at the following Fish and Wildlife field offices:

- Pequest Trout Hatchery/Natural Resource Ed. Ctr, Oxford, Warren Co., (908) 637-4125
- Central Region Office, Upper Freehold Twp., Monmouth Co., (609) 259-2132
- Southern Region Office, Sicklerville, Camden Co., (856) 629-0090

Applications for disabled veteran certification and your first disabled veteran license may be made via the mail by sending the application and all required documentation to Pequest Trout Hatchery/Natural Resource Ed. Ctr, Disabled Veteran Applications, 605 Pequest Rd., Oxford, NJ 07863.

All licenses, stamps and permits for which the veteran is eligible will be free of charge. This does not give preferential treatment in any lottery.

### Disabled Veteran Applicants:

1. 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.
2. Applicant must provide a hunter education (archery, shotgun or rifle) course certificate applicable to the license for which he or she is applying or a previously issued resident archery or firearm license or rifle permit. Resident licenses from other states issued to hunters prior to establishing residency in New Jersey will be accepted if the license indicates the sporting arm for which it was valid. Non-resident licenses from other states are not acceptable.
3. To obtain the free disabled veteran deer/turkey permits one must *first* have a free disabled veteran hunting license.

### For the Blind

Residents afflicted with total blindness may obtain a free license from Fish and Wildlife's Trenton office. Call (609) 292-9530 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 (except on the

## 2012 License Fees and Information

Licenses and fishing-related permits are valid from date of purchase to Dec. 31 of each year.

### Licenses

Resident Fishing	
Ages 16–64 yrs.....	\$22.50
Senior Resident Fishing	
Ages 65–69 yrs.....	\$12.50
70 & over.....	Free
Resident Trout Stamp	
Ages 16–69 yrs.....	\$10.50
Non-resident Fishing	
Age 16 yrs. and older.....	\$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, Fish Tagging.....	\$2
Turtle & Frog Collecting.....	\$2
Scientific Collecting.....	\$22

Delaware River, see page 28). **For the Delaware River the three rod limit applies both to boat and shoreline anglers** (see page 28).

- 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 28.
- Possess a fishing device with more than nine hooks in total, or more than three treble hooks, except for the Delaware River; see page 28.
- Use set lines.
- Use cast nets in freshwater lakes or trout stocked waters. See *Baitfish Regulations*, page 30 for other exclusions.
- Foul hook or snag any species of fish. This does not apply to fish taken through the ice.

### Bow and Arrow Fishing

**Carp, including bighead, common, grass and silver—as well as, eels, flathead catfish, both American and gizzard shad, snakeheads and suckers—may be taken at any time by use of a bow and arrow (with a line attached to the arrow) when in possession of a valid fishing license.** See regulations for the Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, pages 28–29. Crossbows are NOT permitted for fishing.

### 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

## Water Supply Reservoirs Open To Fishing By Permit Only

Permits must be obtained from the specific reservoir owner listed below.

A valid fishing license is also required.

Waterbody		County	Type of Fishing	Fee	Permit Source
Newark-Pequanook Watershed Reservoirs	Echo Lake	Passaic	Boat & Shoreline	Yes	Permits available in person only at these locations: Newark Watershed Conserv. & Dev. Corp 223 Echo Lake Road, Newfoundland, NJ 07435 (973) 697-2850  40 Clinton Street, 4th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102 (973) 622-4521
	Clinton Reservoir				
	Oak Ridge Reservoir	Morris			
	Canistear Reservoir	Sussex			
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		Bergen	Shoreline only	Yes	United Water Company 200 Old Hook Road, Harrington Park, NJ 07640 (201) 767-9300 x3208
Woodcliff Lake					
Lake Tappan Reservoir Lake Deforest					

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 ½-inch from point to shaft;
2. An artificial jigging lure with not more than one burr of three hooks that measure not more than ½-inch from point to point;
3. An artificial jigging lure with not more than three single hooks measuring not more than ½-inch from point to shaft;
4. An artificial jigging 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 jigging lures. All devices that are not hand-held must bear the name and address of the user and cannot be left unattended.

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

### Potentially Dangerous Fish

The possession or release of live, potentially dangerous fish is prohibited. These species include Asian swamp eel, bighead, grass (diploid) and silver carp, brook stickleback, green sunfish, flathead catfish, oriental weatherfish, snakehead and warmouth. Anglers **MUST** destroy these species if encountered while fishing and are directed to submit specimen(s) or photos to a Fish and Wildlife Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries biologist for verification. To reach a biologist, call (908) 236-2118 for north Jersey or (856) 629-4950

for south Jersey. These non-native species are likely to cause environmental harm to the state's fisheries resources by outcompeting preferred game fish species.

### 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.


### Stocking Fish

A permit is required to stock fish or fish eggs into any waters of the state, public or private, at any time. An application may be obtained by contacting the Lebanon Field Office at (908) 236-2118. It is **ILLEGAL** to stock carp or koi into any such waters.

### 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. 

# Fishing Regulations

## SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS








Certain waters are closed to fishing for all species from March 19 to April 7, 2012 at 8 a.m. because of trout stocking.  
Refer to pages 18–19 for complete lists and exceptions. **For Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, see regulations on pages 28–29.**

	SEASON	LOCATION	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
<b>LARGEMOUTH &amp; SMALLMOUTH BASS</b>				
 Largemouth Bass	Jan. 1–April 14 <b>April 15–June 15 Catch &amp; Release only (all waters)</b> June 16–Dec. 31	Statewide (exceptions below)	12 inches	5 combined
 Smallmouth Bass		Lunker Bass Lakes: Alloway, Assunpink, Parvin, Delaware lakes, Splitrock Reservoir	15 inches	3 combined
		Conservation Regulations: Ryker Lake	15 inches	2 combined
	Year-Round	Lake Audrey	Catch & Release only	0
<b>NORTHERN PIKE, TIGER MUSKY, MUSKELLUNGE</b>				
 Northern Pike	Open year round March 20–May 20 are Catch & Release only for Echo Lake Reservoir, Mercer Lake, Mountain Lake, Monksville Reservoir	Statewide	Northern Pike: 24 inches	2
 Muskellunge		Statewide (exceptions below)	Tiger Musky & Muskellunge: 36 inches	1 combined
		Trophy Musky Waters: Mountain & Echo Lake reservoirs	Tiger Musky & Muskellunge: 40 inches	
<b>CHAIN PICKEREL AND REDFIN PICKEREL</b>				
 Chain Pickerel	Open year round	Statewide	15 inches	5 combined
<b>WALLEYE</b>				
 Walleye	Jan. 1–Feb. 29 <b>March 1–April 30 Catch &amp; Release only</b> May 1–Dec. 31	Statewide	18 inches	3
<b>STRIPED BASS (freshwater only)</b> Striped bass regulations are subject to change. Consult our Web site <a href="http://NJFishandWildlife.com">NJFishandWildlife.com</a> and the news media for updates.				
 Striped Bass	March 1–Dec. 31	Statewide	28 inches	2
<b>HYBRID STRIPED BASS (freshwater only)</b> Striped bass regulations are subject to change. Consult our Web site <a href="http://NJFishandWildlife.com">NJFishandWildlife.com</a> and the news media for updates.				
 Hybrid Striped Bass	Open year round	Statewide (exceptions below)	16 inches	2
	March 1–Dec. 31	Raritan River (downstream of Duke Island Park dam)	28 inches	2

# Fishing Regulations

SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS

Regulations in **red** are new this year.  
 Purple text indicates an important note.

	SEASON	LOCATION	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
<b>AMERICAN SHAD</b>				
 American Shad	Open year round	Statewide	No minimum size	3
<b>CHANNEL CATFISH</b>				
 Channel Catfish	Open year round	Statewide	12 inches	5
<b>CRAPPIE (BLACK AND WHITE)</b>				
 Crappie	Open year round	Statewide	8 inches	10 combined
<b>SUNFISH and ALL OTHER SPECIES WITH NO SPECIFIED CREEL LIMITS</b>				
 Rock Bass, White Perch, Yellow Perch, Sunfish (see below for sunfish exceptions), Bullheads, White Catfish, Suckers, Carp, Bowfin, Pumpkinseed and all other species with no specified creel limit.	Open year round	Statewide (exceptions below)	No minimum size	25 combined
		Conservation Regulation Ryker Lake	Sunfish: 7 inches	10 combined
			Yellow Perch: No minimum size	10
 Conservation Regulation Rainbow Lake (Salem Co.)		Sunfish: 7 inches	10 combined	
<b>BANDED, BLACKBANDED, BLUESPOTTED AND MUD SUNFISH</b>				
 Banded Sunfish*      Blackbanded Sunfish*	Closed	Statewide	Protected	0
 Bluespotted Sunfish*      Mud Sunfish				
<b>FRESHWATER BAITFISH (See page 30 for complete description of gear types and restrictions)</b>				
Alewife** (anadromous and land-locked forms), Blueback Herring, Golden Shiner, Banded Killifish, Mummichog, Spotfin Killifish, Rainwater Killifish, American Brook Lamprey, Fathead Minnow, Bluntnose Minnow, Tadpole Madtom, Margined Madtom, All Shiners, Daces, Minnows, Gizzard Shad and American Eel	Open year round <b>Exceptions</b> Baitfish may not be taken in trout stocked waters from March 19 to June 15	Statewide	No minimum <b>Exception</b> American Eel: 6 inches	35 combined, of which no more than ten may be alewife or blue-back herring**

\* Illustrations by Ted Walke, PA Fish and Boat Commission

\*\* DUE TO SERIOUS DECLINES IN RIVER HERRING NUMBERS, THE TAKING OF ALEWIFE AND BLUEBACK HERRING IS ANTICIPATED TO BE PROHIBITED BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2012. BE SURE TO CHECK FISH AND WILDLIFE'S WEB SITE, [NJFishandWildlife.com](http://NJFishandWildlife.com), FOR UPDATES.

# Fishing Regulations

## BOUNDARY WATERS

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## Delaware River

Nicholas A. Tonelli

- 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 **three** 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 carp, catfish, shad and suckers 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.
- A Delaware fishing license is now required for anglers aged 16 and over fishing the Delaware Bay and Delaware River between the upstream tip of Artificial Island and the Delaware-Pennsylvania state line. In that section of the river, the Delaware state boundary extends to the New Jersey shoreline. However, when fishing from shore in New Jersey along that section of the river, a Delaware fishing license is not required. Delaware fishing license information can be found at <http://www.fw.delaware.gov/Fisheries/Pages/NewFishingLicense.aspx>.

Species	Open Seasons	Minimum Length	Daily Limit
Bass, Largemouth & Smallmouth	Jan. 1–April 13	12 inches	5 combined
	June 16–Dec.31		
	April 14–June 15	Catch and release only	Catch and release only
Eel, American**	Open year round	Pennsylvania: 8 inches (but 6–8 inches for baitfish) New Jersey: 6 inches	50
Herring, Alewife and Blueback*	Open year round	No minimum	10 combined
Muskellunge & Hybrids	Open year round	40 inches	1
Pickereel, Chain	Open year round	12 inches	5
Pike, Northern	Open year round	24 inches	2
Shad, American	Open year round	No minimum	3
Shad, Hickory	Closed	—	—
Striped Bass & Hybrids (upstream of Calhoun St. Bridge)	March 1–Dec. 31	28 inches	2
Striped Bass & Hybrids*** (downstream of Calhoun St. Bridge)	March 1–30	28 inches	2
	June 1–Dec.31		
Sturgeon, Atlantic and Shortnose	Closed	—	—
Trout	April 14 at 8 a.m.–Oct. 15	No minimum	5
Walleye	Open year round	18 inches	3
All Other Freshwater Species	Open year round	No minimum	No limit
Baitfish	Open year round	No minimum	50

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\*\* 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. Daily limit of 50.

\*\*\* Pennsylvania allows anglers to harvest a daily limit of two striped bass measuring 20 to 26 inches for a two month period from April 1, 2012 through May 31, 2012, from the Calhoun St. Bridge in Trenton downstream to the Pennsylvania state line. New Jersey still has a closed

season. Anglers fishing the Delaware River from the New Jersey shoreline, or returning to New Jersey by boat and/or car in April and May must abide by New Jersey's striped bass regulations. Possession of striped bass in New Jersey is illegal during this time period.

- A listing of fishing access locations along the Delaware River is available at Fish and Wildlife's Web site, NJFishandWildlife.com, under Freshwater Fishing.
- Delaware River Basin Commission recreation maps are available for \$25. An order form is available online at [www.state.nj.us/drbc/recreation.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/drbc/recreation.htm).
- Information for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is available online at [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa).



## Greenwood Lake

Luke H. Gordon

- 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–June 15	Catch and release only	
	June 16–Dec. 1	12 inches	5 combined
	Dec. 1–Dec. 31	Catch and release only	
Catfish, Channel	Open year round	12 inches	5
Crappie, Black & White	Open year round	8 inches	10 combined
Muskellunge & Hybrids	Open year round	36 inches	1
Perch, Yellow	Open year round	No minimum	50
Pickerel, Chain	Open year round	15 inches	5
Sunfish	Open year round	No minimum	50 combined
Walleye	Jan. 1–Feb. 29	18 inches	3
	March 1–April 30	Catch and release only	
	May 1–Dec. 31	18 inches	3
All Other Species	Open year round	No minimum	No limit

## FRESHWATER FISHERIES FORUMS



Shawn Crouse/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

Note the fluorescent tag behind the eye of this wild brook trout which was marked and released for a trout movement study.

**1st Forum:**  
Feb. 25, 2012; 10 a.m.  
Batsto Village Visitor's Center  
in Wharton State Forest

**2nd Forum:**  
Dec. 1, 2012; 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 (helpful, but not required) please call (908) 236-2118 or send an e-mail to [njfwfish@earthlink.net](mailto:njfwfish@earthlink.net). E-mails should include name, address, phone number and number of people attending.

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

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See separate regulations for Delaware River (page 28).  
For marine waters, see Marine Issue of *New Jersey Fish & Wildlife Digest*.

## Baitfish Regulations\*

### 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, 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 landlocked forms) are regulated as food fish with a one-day possession limit of 10 in aggregate.

(See separate regulations for boundary waters, pages 28–29.)

Season	Location	Minimum size	Daily limit
Open year round	Statewide (freshwaters)	No minimum size	35 per day species combined, of which no more than ten may be alewife or blueback herring*
<b>Exception</b> Season closed March 19–June 15 on trout stocked waters and special regulation trout areas		<b>Exception</b> American eel: 6 inches	

**Notes:** Any person with a valid fishing license (or those under 16 and residents 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
<b>Seine</b>	Not over 50 feet long in ponds and lakes over 100 acres; in all other waters not over 30 feet in length. <b>Exception:</b> In trout-stocked waters and special regulation trout areas a seine may not be more than 10 feet in length and 4 feet in depth.
<b>Minnow Trap</b>	Not larger than 24 inches in length with a funnel mouth no greater than 2 inches in diameter.
<b>Umbrella Net</b>	No greater than 3.5 feet square.
<b>Dip Net</b>	Not more than 24 inches in diameter; may be used only for alewife or blueback herring.
<b>Cast Net</b>	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).
<b>Hook And Line</b>	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.

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## Turtle and Frog Regulations

Species	Season	Location	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
<b>Snapping Turtle</b>	January 1–April 30 June 16–December 31	Statewide	No minimum	3 per day
<b>Bull Frog and Green Frog</b>	January 1–March 31 July 1–December 31	Statewide	No minimum	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 inches 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 commercial harvest permit issued by Fish and Wildlife at its discretion. Contact (908) 236-2118 for application information.

### MOTOR BOAT REGISTRATION & TITLE REQUIREMENTS

## Motor Boat Registration and Title Requirements

### NJ Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC)

#### 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 (incl. electric motors), 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 that are operating under a federally approved numbering system from another state
- 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.

#### Boat Operator License (MVC)

An operator license is required to operate power vessels on fresh, non-tidal waters such as lakes, creeks and rivers. (Minimum age 16 years; with certain exceptions.)

#### For More Information:

**New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission**  
(888) 486-3339 toll free in NJ or  
(609) 292-6500 from out-of-state  
[www.nj.gov/mvc/](http://www.nj.gov/mvc/)

#### Boat Safety Certificate (NJSP)

A boat safety certificate (from an **approved** boat safety course; see NJSP Web site, below) is required to operate a personal watercraft or power vessel, including electric motors, in NJ waters (tidal and non-tidal).

#### New Jersey State Police (NJSP)

(609) 882-2000  
[www.njsp.org/maritime](http://www.njsp.org/maritime)

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 Rt. 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 Rd. 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—Rt. 553 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—Rt. 553 bridge, Fairton  
Muskee Creek—S. side of bridge on Weathersby Rd.  
Nantuxent Creek (Pages Run)—Rt. 553 north of Frames Corner  
Oranoken Creek—Whitecar Mill, North of Beaver dam

Oyster Creek—None—all saline water  
Riggins Ditch—Rt. 47 bridge  
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—Rt. 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—Rt. 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 Rd.  
Swimming River—Swimming River Rd. bridge  
Wreck Pond Creek—Rt. 71 bridge

## MORRIS COUNTY

License required on all waters

## OCEAN COUNTY

Beaver Dam Creek—Rt. 88 bridge  
Cedar Creek—Rt. 9 bridge  
Cedar Run—Rt. 9 bridge  
Dinner Point Creek—None—all saline water  
Double Creek—None—all saline water  
Forked River—All branches Rt. 9

Gunning River—None—all saline water  
Jakes Branch—Above Atlantic City Blvd.  
Jeffreys Creek—Ocean Gate Rd. to Ocean Gate  
Kettle Creek—Rt. 549 bridge  
Lake of the Lilies—Entire lake  
Long Swamp Creek—Washington St. bridge, Toms River  
Manahawkin Creek—Dams for Manahawkin WMA 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—Rt. 9 bridge  
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 Rt. 9 bridge  
Waretown Creek—Rt. 9 bridge  
West Creek—Rt. 9 bridge

## PASSAIC COUNTY

License required on all waters

## SALEM COUNTY

Alloway Creek—Rt. 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—Rt. 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.