

2013 NJ Recreational Minimum Size, Possession Limits & Seasons

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	MINIMUM LENGTH	HARVEST & POSSESSION LIMIT <small>(per person unless noted)</small>
American Eel	No Closed Season	6"	50
Black Drum	No Closed Season	16"	3
Black Sea Bass	May 19-Aug. 8, Sept 27-Oct. 14, Nov. 1-Dec. 31	12.5" exc. tail filaments	20
Blue Crab - Peeler or Shedder	Crab Pot/Trot line Seasons:	3"	Recreational limit -
Soft	Delaware Bay & Tributaries:	3 1/2 "	One Bushel
Hard	Apr. 6-Dec. 4	4 1/2 "	
	All other waters: Mar. 15-Nov. 30		
Bluefish	No Closed Season	No minimum	15
Cod	No Closed Season	21"	No Limit
King Mackerel	No Closed Season	23"	3
Pollock	No Closed Season	19"	No Limit
Porgy (Scup)	Jan. 1-Feb. 28 & July 1-Dec. 31	9"	50
Red Drum	No Closed Season	18" but not greater than 27"	1
River Herring	Closed	N/A	0

For more information on what catch is safe to eat, visit: fishsmarteatsmartnj.org

Fish are measured from tip of snout to tip of tail (except Black Sea Bass and Sharks). No species of fish with a minimum size limit listed above may be filleted or cleaned at sea.

Remember to register before fishing. IT'S FREE! SaltwaterRegistry.nj.gov

SPECIES

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Shark - not including dogfish	See current Marine Digest or njfishandwildlife.com for regulatory requirements.		
Spanish Mackerel	No Closed Season	14"	10
Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass			
• Delaware River & Tributaries (Calhoun St. Bridge to Salem River & Tributaries)	Mar. 1-31 & Jun. 1-Dec. 31	28" or greater	2
• Atlantic Ocean 0-3 miles from shore	No Closed Season		
• Greater than 3 miles from shore	Harvest and Possession Prohibited	Harvest and Possession Prohibited	
• All other marine waters	Mar. 1-Dec. 31		
Summer Flounder*	May 18-Sept. 16	17.5"	5
Tautog	Jan. 1-Feb. 28	15"	4
	Apr. 1-Apr. 30	15"	4
	Jul. 17-Nov. 15	15"	1
	Nov. 16-Dec. 31	15"	6
Weakfish	No Closed Season	13"	1
Winter Flounder	Mar. 23-May 21	12"	2

* Notice: Possible in-season changes. See njfishandwildlife.com for current regulations.

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To report violations call 609-748-2050 or 877-WARN-DEP

njfishandwildlife.com

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