2016 NJ Recreational Minimum Size, Possession Limits & Seasons

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	MINIMUM LENGTH	HARVEST & POSSESSION LIMIT (per person unless noted)
American Eel	No Closed Season	9"	25
Black Drum	No Closed Season	16"	3
Black Sea Bass	May 23-Jun. 19	12.5" exc. tail filaments	10
	Jul. 1-Aug. 31	12.5" exc. tail filaments	2
	Oct. 22-Dec. 31	13" exc. tail filaments	15
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	Point to Point	
Bluefish (Snapper)	No Closed Season	No minimum	15
Cod	No Closed Season	21"	No Limit
Cobia	No Closed Season	37"	2
Pollock	No Closed Season	19"	No Limit
Porgy (Scup)	Jan. 1-Feb. 28 & July 1-Dec. 31	9"	50

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.

Print in ORANGE denotes changes in 2016 Regulations.

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





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SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	MINIMUM LENGTH	HARVEST & POSSESSION LIMIT (per person unless noted)	
Red Drum	No Closed Season	18" but not greater than 27"	1	
River Herring	Closed	NA	0	
Shark - not including dogfish	See current Marine Digest or njfishand wildlife.com for regulatory requireme		rements.	
Spanish Mackerel	No Closed Season	14"	10	
Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass	,			
 Delaware River & Tributaries 	Mar. 1-31 & Jun. 1-Dec. 31	28" to 43"	1	
(Calhoun St. Bridge to Salem River & Tributaries)		greater than 43"	1	
 Atlantic Ocean 0-3 miles from shore 	No Closed Season			
All other marine waters	Mar. 1-Dec. 31			
 Greater than 3 miles from shore 	Harvest and Possession Prohibited	Harvest and Possession Prohibited		
Summer Flounder (Fluke)	May 21-Sept. 25	18"	5	
 Delaware Bay & Tributaries 	May 21-Sept. 25	17"	4	
• Island Beach State Park	May 21-Sept. 25	16"	2	
See njfishandwildlife.com for current Summer Flounder Reg's in Delaware Bay & IBSP				
Tautog (Blackfish)	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. 1-Dec. 31	12"	2	

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

NJFishandWildlife.com

NJSeaGrant.org

