

# Maryland's Coastal Bays, Tributaries and Atlantic Ocean Sport Fishing

## Legal Size of Certain Coastal Bays Fish

Size, Season and Daily Creel Limits of Certain Species in the Atlantic and Coastal Bays  
(These rules are subject to change)

<b>STRIPED BASS (ROCKFISH)</b> Minimum Size: 28 inches Creel Limit: 2 per person per day	<b>TAUTOG</b> Minimum Size: 14 inches Creel Limit: Jan 1 thru May 15 and Nov 1 thru Nov 30 4/person/day May 16 thru Oct 21 2/person/day Closed Season: December 1 – December 31
<b>CROAKER (HARDHEAD)</b> Minimum Size: 9 inches Creel Limit: 25 per person per day	<b>WEAKFISH</b> Minimum Size: 13 inches Creel Limit: 8 per person per day
<b>BLUEFISH</b> Minimum Size: 8 inches Creel Limit: 10 per person per day	<b>FLOUNDER</b> Creel, Minimum Size and Seasons to be announced.
<b>BLACK SEA BASS</b> Minimum Size: 12 inches (excluding tail filaments) Creel Limit: 25 per person per day	<b>SCUP (PORGY)</b> Minimum Size: 8 inches Creel Limit: 50 per person per day
<b>SPOTTED SEATRUT</b> Minimum Size: 14 inches Creel Limit: 10 per person per day	<b>BLACK DRUM</b> Minimum Size: 16 inches Creel Limit: 1 per person per day Daily Catch Limit: 6 per boat
<b>RED DRUM (CHANNEL BASS)</b> Minimum Size: 18" min. – 27" max. Creel Limit: 1 per person per day	
<b>SHARKS (ALL SPECIES)</b> Consult Fisheries Service website or call 410-260-8260 for regulations.	

## It Shall be Unlawful

1. To possess a daily catch limit of more than 250 hard shell clams per person per day. Clams must measure 1" thick.
2. To have in one's possession American or hickory shad.
3. To cull striped bass.

## Recreational Crab Seasons And Size Limits

Crab Season ..... April 1 to December 31  
 Size ..... (measure from tip to tip of spikes)  
 Hard Crab ..... 5 inches  
 Soft Crab ..... 3 1/2 inches  
 Peeler Crab ..... 3 1/4 inches from April 1 to July 14,  
 ..... 3 1/2 inches from July 15 to December 31  
 MATURE FEMALE CRAB NO MINIMUM SIZE.  
 License Requirement ..... None  
 Time Restrictions ..... None

## Recreational Crabbing Daily Catch Limits

The daily catch limit in the waters of the coastal bays of the Atlantic Ocean and their tidal tributaries is:

- (1) 1 bushel per person; and
- (2) 2 bushels per boat if two or more individuals are on the boat.