

Recreational Saltwater Fishing Seasons, Size and Possession Limits

Effective June 19, 2002

Laws and regulations are frequently amended by the Legislature or DEC. You should check with the Marine Fisheries office to ensure that the requirements set forth in this notice remain in effect.

SPECIES Shark Regulations	SIZE LIMITS (Total Length in Inches)	DAILY POSSESSION LIMITS (Number of Fish)	OPEN SEASONS
Summer flounder (fluke) *	17	7	May 2 - Oct 31
Winter flounder	11	15	All state waters: 3rd Sat. in March - June 30 & Sept 15 - Nov 30
Tautog (blackfish)	14	1 fish - June 1 to Oct 6 10 fish - Oct 7 to May 31	All year
Bluefish (including "snappers")	No size limit	10	All year
Weakfish	16 10 filleted 12 dressed	6	All year
Atlantic cod	21	Any number	All year
Pollock	19	Any number	All year
Haddock	21	Any number	All year
Striped bass; marine waters**	28	1	May 8 - Dec 15
Striped bass; north of George Washington Bridge	18	1	March 16 - Nov 30
Red drum	14	2 greater than 32"	All year
Spanish mackerel	14	15	All year
King mackerel	23	3	All year
Cobia	37	2	All year

Atlantic sturgeon	Moratorium	Moratorium	Moratorium
Black Sea Bass	11.5	25	All year
Scup (Porgy)	10	50	Person fishing aboard boats that hold a Marine & Coastal District Party Charter Boat License: June 25 - Nov 30 All other persons: June 25 - Sept 15 & Oct 1 - Nov 30
American eel	6	50	All year
Monkfish (goose fish)	21 14 tail length	Any number	All year
American Shad	No size limit	5	All year
Hickory Shad	No size limit	5	All year
Crabs ++	No size limit	50	All year
American lobster ++ (Rec. permit required)	3 1/4" carapace length	6	All year
Yellowtail flounder	13	Any number	All year
Horseshoe crabs	No size limit	5	All year

* Summer flounder may not have heads or tails removed or be otherwise cleaned, cut, filleted, or skinned until brought to shore, with the following exception: the white side fillet or white skin only of a legal size fluke may be removed to use as bait. The carcass of the fluke with dark side completely intact must be retained for inspection of size limit and counts against the possession limit.

+ For the purposes of these regulations, Long Island Sound includes all adjacent bays and harbors.

** Marine waters -- South of George Washington Bridge

++ Lobsters and crabs in spawn (eggs visible thereon) may not be taken or possessed.

Check this web site periodically for changes in saltwater fishing regulations. Can't get to a computer? The above information is available as a taped telephone message 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at the Regulations Hotline: 1-800-REGS-DEC (available in Westchester County, New York City, and Long Island only).