

COASTAL BAYS, COASTAL BAY TRIBUTARIES & ATLANTIC OCEAN

SPECIES	MINIMUM SIZE LIMITS	SEASON	CREEL LIMIT	REMARKS
AMERICAN EEL	9 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 25	
BLACK DRUM	16 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 1 Boat limit – 6	
BLACK SEA BASS	Creel, minimum size, and season announced by public notice — www.dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/notices/notices.asp			
BLUEFISH	8 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 10	
CROAKER (hardhead)	9 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 25	
DOLPHIN (fish)	None	Open Year Round	Daily – 10 Boat limit – 60	
GROUPE SPECIES	None	Open Year Round	Daily – 1	
LOBSTER *Please see additional recreational lobster information below	3½–5¼ inches carapace length	Open Year Round Except Feb. 1–Mar. 31	100 lobster/person/day or 500 lobster/trip for a 5-day trip when using gear other than lobster traps.	Must be landed whole. Spearing is prohibited.
RED DRUM (channel bass or puppy drum)	18–27 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 1	
SCUP (porgy)	8 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 50	
SNAPPER SPECIES	None	Open Year Round	Daily – 20 in aggregate	Snapper Species - www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/getfile.aspx?file=08.02.05.29.htm
SPANISH MACKEREL	14 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 15	
SPOTTED SEATROUT	14 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 10	
SUMMER FLOUNDER (fluke)	Creel, minimum size, and season announced by public notice— www.dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/notices/notices.asp			
STRIPED BASS	28 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 2	Striped Bass may not be caught, harassed or possessed in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), which stretches from 3 to 200 miles off the coast.
TAUTOG	16 inches	Open Year Round Except Nov. 27–Dec. 31	Jan. 1–May 15 and Nov. 1–Nov. 26, Daily – 4 May 16–Oct. 31, Daily – 2	
TILEFISH SPECIES	None	Open Year Round Open Year Round	Daily – 7 in aggregate	
WAHOO	None	Open Year Round	Daily – 2	
WEAKFISH	13 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 1	

The taking of American Shad, Hickory Shad, Alewife Herring, Blueback Herring, Atlantic Sturgeon and Shortnose Sturgeon is prohibited.

***Gear: A lobster trap must have:**

- A minimum of one rectangular escape vent which must be a minimum of 2 inches by 5 ¾ inches; or
- A minimum of two circular escape vents which must have a minimum diameter of 2 ½ inches

It is unlawful to catch, land, possess, sell, offer to sell, or transport any:

- Lobster that is egg-bearing or from which eggs have been intentionally removed;
- Female lobster bearing a V-shaped notch which is:
 - A straight-sided triangular cut with or without setal hairs, at least 1/8 inch in depth and tapering to a sharp point in the flipper next to the right of the center flipper as viewed from the rear of the female lobster; or
 - Mutilated in a manner which could hide, obscure, or obliterate such a mark.

An individual who catches an egg bearing female lobster that measures 3½ inches to 5¼ inches in length from the rear end of the eye socket along a line parallel to the center line of body shell (carapace) to the rear of the body shell (carapace) must:

- Mark the lobster to the right of the center flipper as viewed from the rear of the female lobster when the underside of the lobster is down with a v-shaped notch that:
 - Is made by means of a sharp bladed instrument;
 - Is at least ¼ inch in length;
 - Is not greater than ½ inch in depth; and
 - Tapers to a sharp point; and
- Immediately release the lobster.

