Fishing Hunting

Main General Info Licensing Info General Regulations Nontidal Fishing Tidal Fishing Crabbing

Tidal Seasons, Minimum Sizes, Daily Creel & Possession

The following tables summarize rules governing the harvest and possession of fish species that anglers commonly catch in Maryland. This is an abridged summary and does not include all regulated species. Full information and updates are available

at: www.dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/regulations/regindex.asp.

CHESAPEAKE BAY & ITS TIDAL TRIBUTARIES

Species	Minimum Size Limits	CLOSEd Season	Creel Limit	Remarks
Black drum	16 inches		Daily – 1 Daily boat limit – 6	
Black Sea Bass	12.5 inches	October 15 - 31	Daily – 20	
Bluefish	8 inches		Daily – 10	
Catfish	None			
Chain pickerel (pike)	14 inches	March 15 – April 30	Daily – 10	
Croaker (hardhead)	9 inches		Daily – 25	
Eels	6 inches		Daily – 25	
Summer Flounder (fluke)	16 inches		Daily – 4	
Bass (largemouth & smallmouth)	15 inches March 1–June 15 12 inches June 16 through last day in February		Daily – 5 in aggregate	
Red drum (channel bass or puppy drum)	18–27 inches		Daily – 1	
Spanish mackerel	14 inches		Daily – 15	Must be landed with head and fins intact.
Spotted seatrout	14 inches		Daily – 10	
Striped bass				See Chesapeake Bay Striped Bass section — page <u>40</u>
White perch	None if caught with hook & line; 8 inch minimum if caught with other gear			
Walleye	15 inches		Daily – 5	
Weakfish	13 inches		Daily – 1	
Yellow perch	9 inches		Daily – 10	
The taking of American shad, hiskory shad, alewife herring, blueback herring, Atlantic sturgeon and shortness				

The taking of American shad, hickory shad, alewife herring, blueback herring, Atlantic sturgeon and shortnose sturgeon is prohibited.

- Areas Closed to Fishing February, March and April:

 1. Magothy River from Lake Waterford dam downstream for 3,300 feet.

 2. Severn River and Severn Run from the Route 3 Bridge downstream for 2,400 feet.

COASTAL BAYS, COASTAL BAY TRIBUTARIES & ATLANTIC OCEAN



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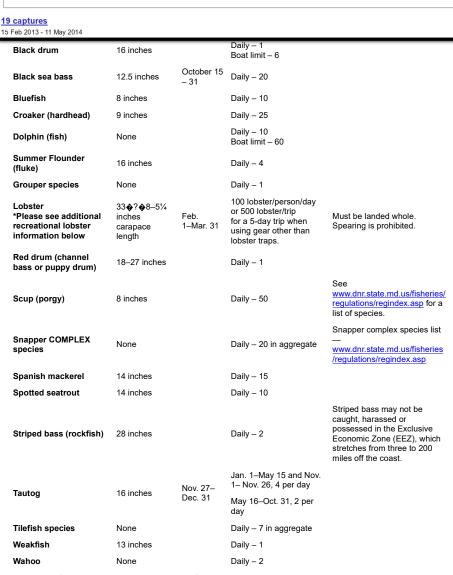
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The taking of American shad, hickory shad, alewife herring, blueback herring, Atlantic sturgeon and shortnose sturgeon is prohibited.

*Gear: A lobster trap shall have:

- A minimum of one rectangular escape vent which shall be a minimum of 2 inches by 5¾ inches; or
- A minimum of two circular escape vents which shall have a minimum diameter of 25�?�8 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
- 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.

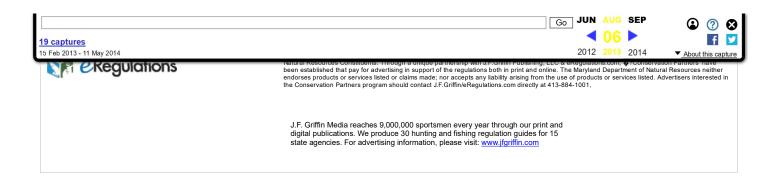
An individual who catches an egg bearing female lobster that measures 33�?�8 inches to 5½ inches in length from

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 shall:

- 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 1/2 inch in depth; and
- · Tapers to a sharp point; and

· Immediately release the lobster.

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