

MARYLAND'S COASTAL BAYS

[BACK TO COASTAL BAYS PAGE](#)
[BACK TO FISHERIES SERVICE PAGE](#)

Note: A fishing license is not needed to fish Maryland's Coastal Bays or the Atlantic.

(However, a Chesapeake Bay Sport Fishing license is necessary to fish the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.)

This is an abridged version of the regulations and does not include all regulated species. May not include Emergency Amendments, Quota Closures/Modifications or Proposed Amendments. Under State Govt. Article, Section 7-217, Annotated Code of Maryland, the printed version of COMAR is the official and enforceable text.

Only the official text may be judicially noticed under Courts and Judicial Proceedings, Section 10-203, Annotated Code of Maryland. Consult the Maryland Register, Code of Maryland Regulations and Natural Resources Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland for full legal text.

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sf/permits.htm>

Summary of Maryland Coastal Bays Recreational Fisheries Regulations				
Species	Minimum Size	Season, Days, Times,	Creel Limits	Special Conditions/Comments
Black Drum	16"	Open year round	1/person/day	
Black Sea Bass	12"	Open year round	25/person/day	
Bluefish	8"	Open year round	10/person/day	
Croaker (Hardhead)	9"	Open year round	25/person/day	
Red Drum (Channel Bass)	18" - 27"	Open year round	1/person/day	
Striped Bass (Rockfish)	28"	Open year round	2/person/day	
Scup (Porgy)	8"	Open year round	50/person/day	
Sharks	Fisherman are prohibited from possessing white, dusky, sand tiger, bigeye sand tiger, whale, basking bignose, Galapagos, Night, Caribbean reef, narrowtooth, Caribbean sharpnose, smalltail, Atlantic angel, longfin mako, bigeye thresher, sevengill, sixgill and bigeye sixgill. Except for those sharks that are prohibited, recreational fisherman are allowed to possess one shark per vessel per trip with a minimum size of 54-inches and one Atlantic sharpnose shark per person per trip with no minimum size.			
Spotted Seatrout	14"	Open year round	10/person/day	
Summer Flounder	15½"	Open Year Round	4/person/day	
Tautog	14"	Jan 1 thru Nov 30	5/person/day	Closed month of December
Weakfish	13"	Open year round	8 fish/person/day	

[Click Here for a Summary of Maryland Coastal Bays Recreational Crabbing Regulations.](#)

[Click here for Dolphin and Wahoo.](#)

[Click here for HMS Species permits and regulations.](#)

**This page was Last updated: 09/30/2020 19:54:00 **