Fishing Hunting

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Tidal Seasons, Minimum Sizes, Daily Creel & Possession

CHESAPEAKE BAY & ITS TIDAL TRIBUTARIES							
Species	Minimum Size Limits	Season	Creel Limit	Remarks			
American Eel	9 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 25				
Bass (Largemouth & Smallmouth)	15 inches March 1–June 15 12 inches June 16 through last day	Open Year Round	Daily – 5 in aggregate				
	in February						
Black Drum	16 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 1 Daily 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				
Catfish	None	Open Year Round					
Chain pickerel (pike)	14 inches	CLOSED March 15 – April 30	Daily – 10				
Croaker (hardhead)	9 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 25				
Red drum (channel bass or puppy drum)	18–27 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 1				
Spanish Mackerel	14 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 15	Must be landed with head and fins intact.			
Spotted seatrout	14 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 10				
Striped Bass				See Chesapeake Bay Striped Bass section — page <u>38</u>			
Summer Flounder (fluke)	Creel, minimum size, and season announced by public notice—www.dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/notices/notices.asp						
Walleye	15 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 5				
Weakfish	13 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 1				
White perch	None if caught with hook & line; 8 inch minimum if caught with other gear	Open Year Round	No Limit				
Yellow perch	9 inches	Open Year Round	Daily – 10				
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:

- Magothy River from Lake Waterford dam downstream for 3,300 feet.
 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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		Rouliu			
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		
Grouper species	None	Open Year Round	Daily – 1		
Lobster *Please see additional recreational lobster information below	33/6-51/4 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)	$\label{lem:continuous} Creel, minimum\ size,\ and\ season\ announced\ by\ public\ noticewww.dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries\ /notices/notices.asp$				
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,		
		Open Year	Daily – 2		
Tilefish species	None	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:

- \bullet A minimum of one rectangular escape vent which must be a minimum of 2 inches by 5% inches; or
- A minimum of two circular escape vents which must have a minimum diameter of 25% 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
 - o Mutilated in a manner which could hide, obscure, or obliterate such a mark.

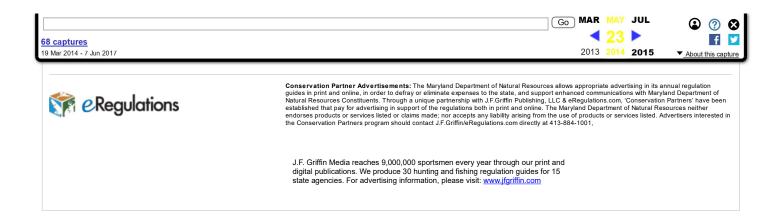


An individual who catches an egg bearing female lobster that measures $^{3}\!\%$ inches to $5\!\%$ inches in length from the

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

- 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:
 - o 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

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