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REPORT

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RESOURCES

Marine Regulations

Fishing rules and regulations seem to change with the tide these days, and they vary greatly from state to state. That's why *The Fisherman* posts the current size and bag limits, seasons and licensing information covering all your favorite local species. Before heading out, check here for a state-by-state breakdown of current restrictions to ensure you'll be in compliance no matter how, when or where you fish.

CONNECTICUT

American Eel: 6" minimum size, 50/angler, no closed season

Black Sea Bass: 13" minimum size excluding tail fin filament (tendrill,)

15/angler, open June 15 - December 31 (Note: The season was re-opened on 1/31/2013 due to the emergency closure enacted in November and will remain open until the 2013 regulations are set)

Bluefish: No minimum size, 10/angler (including "snappers,") no closed season

Cod: 22" minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season

NOTE: Anglers aboard federally permitted party or charter vessels may possess any number of Atlantic cod, consistent with federal rules.

Haddock: 18" minimum size, no daily creel limit, no closed season

Hickory Shad & American Shad: No size limit, 6/angler (both species aggregate,) no closed season

Pollock: 19" minimum size, no daily creel limit, no closed season

Scup / Porgy: 10.5" minimum size, 20/angler, May 1 - December 31; charter and open boat is 11" minimum, 20/angler from May 1 - August 31, November 1 - December 31; 40/angler from September 1 - October 31

Striped Bass: 28" minimum size, 2/angler, no closed season; bonus voucher program through CT DEEP

Summer Flounder/Fluke: 18" minimum size, 5/angler, May 15 - October 31; Enhanced opportunity shore fishing, specific locations ONLY, 16" minimum, 5 fish limit

Tautog / Blackfish: 16 inch minimum for all seasons; April 1 - April 30, 2 fish per angler; July 1 - August 31, 2 fish per angler; October 10 - December 6 - 4 fish per angler

Weakfish: 16" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season

White Perch: 7" minimum size, 30/angler, no closed season

Winter Flounder: 12" minimum size, 2/angler, April 1 - May 30

Featured Videos



CRUSH BARBS FOR EASY RELEASE, EXTRA SAFETY

Crushing the barbs on your hooks makes it easier to free them from the jaws of bass and blues. It might also help you avoid a trip to the hospital should you get stuck. *The Fisherman's* Fred Golofaro tackles the task.



WHEN SAND EELS RULE THE SURF



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NY SPORTFISHING FEDERATION

50 captures
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About this capture

Federal Reulations beyond three miles.

Bluefish: No size limit, 10/angler, no closed season

Croaker: 8" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Porgy: 8" minimum size, 50/angler, no closed season

Red Drum: 20-27" slot size, 5/angler, no closed season

Scup (Porgy): 8" minimum size, 50/angler, no closed season

Spanish Mackerel: 14" minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season

Spotted Seatrout: 12" minimum size, No creel limit, no closed season

Striped Bass: 28" minimum size, 2/angler by hook and line only, no closed season. Slot of 20" - 26" in Delaware River/Delaware Bay and tributaries with season of July 1 - Aug 30 Delaware River from Trenton to Salem River open March 1 to March 31 and June 1 to December 31.

Summer Flounder: 18" minimum size, 4/angler, January 1 - October 23

Tautog: 15-inch minimum size for all open seasons; 5/angler Jan. 1 - March 31 and Sept. 29 - Dec. 31; 3/angler April 1 - May 11 and July 17 - Aug. 31. Season closed Sept. 1 - Sept. 28 and May 12 - July 16.

Weakfish: 13" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season

MARYLAND

Black Sea Bass: 12.5" minimum size, 15/angler, Jan. 1st to Feb. 28th Inshore to match federal regulations beyond three miles.

Bluefish: 8" minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season

Croaker: 9" minimum size, limit 25/angler, no closed season

Flounder: 3 fish at 17 inches per person/day from April 14 to Dec. 16 in Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Waters

Herring: Moritorium

Red Drum: 18" - 27" slot limit, 1/angler, no closed season

Spanish Mackerel: 14" minimum size, 15/angler, no closed season

Striped Bass: Spring Trophy Season, April 21 - May 15, 28" min., 1 per person per day; May 16 - December 15, two fish per angler, 18" minimum size (only one of the two daily fish may exceed 28 inches)

Tautog: 16" minimum size, 2/angler, 4/angler from January 1 - May 15 and from November 1 thru November 14; 2/angler from May 16 thru Oct 31

Weakfish: 13" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season

White Perch: No minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Yellow Perch: 9" minimum size, 10 per day per person, no closed season

FISHING FLEA MARKET

February 16, 2013: One of the largest fishing flea markets in Southern Ocean County. There will be over 90 ...

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Black Sea Bass: 14" minimum size, 10/angler, May 11 - June 24; 14," 20/angler, June 25 - October 31

Bluefish: No minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season

Cod: 19" minimum size for private/for-hire boats, 9/angler, April 16 - October 31; November 1 - April 15, 2 per person private boat with 24" minimum size and 75-lb. max, closed to for-hire vessels; See DMF for additional spring and winter cod conservation zone regulations.

NOTE: Anglers aboard federally permitted party or charter vessels may possess any number of Atlantic cod, consistent with federal rules.

Fluke (Summer Flounder): 16.5" minimum size, 5/angler, May 22 - September 30

Haddock: 18" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Halibut: 41" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season

Pollock: No minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Scup / Porgy: 10.5" minimum, 20/angler (maximum 100 fish per vessel with 6 or more passengers) for private boats and shore anglers, May 1 - December 31; For hire regular season, 11" minimum size, 20 fish limit, May 1 - May 10 and June 25 - December 31; For Hire (Bonus,) 11" minimum, 45 fish limit, May 11 - June 24.

Shad: No minimum size, 6/angler, no closed season

Smelt: No minimum size, 50/angler, June 16 - March 14

Striped Bass: 28" minimum size, 2/angler, no closed season

Tautog / Blackfish: 16" minimum size, 3/angler, no closed season

Weakfish: 16" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season

White Perch: 8" minimum size, 25/angler, no closed season

Winter Flounder: North of Cape Cod: 12" minimum size, 8/angler, November 1 - August 31; South and east of Cape Cod: 12" minimum size, 2/angler, April 28 - May 27 and September 22 - October 21

Yellowtail Flounder: 13" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

NEW HAMPSHIRE

American Eel: 6" minimum size, 50/angler, no closed season; fishway closures apply October 2 - June 14

American Shad: No minimum size, 2/angler, no closed season

Atlantic Salmon: 15" minimum size, 2/angler, no closed season, snagging not allowed

Bluefish: No minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season

Cod: 24" minimum size, 10/angler, November 1 - April 15; April 1 - June 30, Gulf of Maine Spawning Protection Area closed.

NOTE: Anglers aboard federally permitted party or charter vessels may possess any number of Atlantic cod, consistent with federal rules.

Haddock: 18" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Halibut: 41" minimum size, 1/angler/vessel, no closed season

Pollock: 19" minimum size if taken in federal waters, no creel limit, no closed season

Striped Bass: 28" minimum size, 2/angler (only 1 fish may be greater than 40"), no closed season

Summer Flounder/Fluke: 15" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Winter Flounder: 12" minimum size, 8/angler, season closed May 15 - May 24

Yellowtail Flounder: 13" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

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limit of 32 inches pending hearings**

Black Sea Bass: 12.5" minimum size, 15/angler, Jan. 1st to Feb. 28th Inshore to match federal regulations beyond three miles.

Blue Crab: 3" minimum size for peeler/shedder 3-1/2" for for soft shell 4-1/2" hard shell Limit one bushell

Bluefish: No minimum size, 15/angler, no closed season

Cobia: 37" minimum size, 2/angler, no closed season

Cod & Haddock: 21" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

NOTE: Anglers aboard federally permitted party or charter vessels may possess any number of Atlantic cod, consistent with federal rules.

King Mackerel: 23" minimum size, 3/angler, no closed season

Pollock: 19" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Porgy : 9" minimum size, 50/angler, Jan 1- Feb 28 and July 1-Dec 31

Red Drum: 18"-27" slot size, 1/angler, no closed season

Spanish Mackerel: 14" minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season

Striped Bass: 28" minimum size, 2/angler, no closed season out to 3 miles

Summer Flounder: 17.5" minimum size, 5/angler, May 5 - Sept 28

Tautog: 15" minimum size, 4/angler, January 1 - February 28, April 1 - April 30, November 16 - December 31; 1/angler, July 27 - August 31 and October 18 - November 15

Weakfish: 13" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season

Winter Flounder : 12" minimum size, 2/angler, Mar 23 - May 21

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Atlantic Sturgeon: Moratorium

Black Sea Bass: 12.5" minimum size, 15/angler, January 1 - February 28 for both NY state and federal waters.

Blue Crab: Minimum shell width (spike to spike tip) 4.5" hard shell, 3-1/2" soft shell, 3" peeler/shedder, 50 creel limit, no closed season; All other crab species: no minimum size, 50 creel limit, no closed season

Bluefish: No minimum size for first ten fish, 12 inch minimum for additional fish, 15/angler total, no closed season

Cod: Cod: 22" minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season;

NOTE: Anglers aboard federally permitted party or charter vessels may possess any number of Atlantic cod, consistent with federal rules.

Fluke (Summer Flounder): 19.5" minimum size, 4/angler, May 1 - September 30

Haddock: 18" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Hickory Shad: No minimum size, 5/angler, no closed season

Monkfish (goosefish): 17" minimum size(11" tail length,) no creel limit, no closed season

Oyster Toadfish: 10" minimum size, 3/angler, no closed season

Pollock: 19" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Porgy (Scup): 10.5" minimum size, 20/angler, May 1 - December 31; charter and open boat is 11" minimum size, 20/angler from May 1 - August 31 and November 1 - December 31; 40/angler from September 1 - October 31

Red Drum: No minimum size, 27" maximum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Spanish Mackerel: 14" minimum size, 15/angler, no closed season

Striped Bass: 18" minimum size, 1/angler for Hudson River north of George Washington Bridge, March 16 - November 30; 28" minimum size, 2/angler, April 15 - December 15 for party/charter anglers in marine waters; 28" to 40" slot, 1/angler limit, plus one fish >40" for all other marine anglers

Tautog (Blackfish): 16" minimum size, 4/angler, October 5 - December 14

Weakfish: 16" minimum size (10" filleted/12" dressed,) 1/angler, no closed season

Winter Flounder: 12" minimum size, 2/angler, April 1 - May 30

Yellowtail Flounder: 13" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

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Black Sea Bass: 13" minimum size, 15/angler, June 15 - December 31

Blue Crab : Minimum shell width (spike to spike tip,) 5" hard shell, 3-1/2" soft shell, no creel limit, May 1 - November 30

Cod: 22" minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season

Haddock: 19" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Pollock: 19" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Scup / Porgy: Shore / Private Boat: 10.5", 20/angler, May 1 - December 31;
Party/Charter Boat: 11" minimum, 20/angler, May 1 - August 31 and November 1 - December 31 and 40/angler from September 1 - October 31

Striped Bass: 28" minimum size, 2/angler

Summer Flounder/Fluke: 18.5" minimum size, 8/angler, May 1 - December 31

Tautog / Blackfish: 16" minimum size, 3/angler, April 15 - May 31 and August 1 - October 19; 6/angler from October 20 - December 15; maximum of 10 fish per private vessel during all periods

Weakfish: 16" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season

Winter Flounder (Blackback): 12" minimum size, 2/angler, April 28 - May 27 and September 29 - October 28

Yellowtail Flounder: 13" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

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