



# Chesapeake Bay Seasons, Sizes & Limits



Chesapeake Bay & Its Tidal Tributaries				
Species	Minimum Size Limits	Season	Creel Limit	Remarks
American Eel	9 inches	Jan 1-Aug 31, except open year round for spears and baited traps or pots	Daily—25	
Bass (Largemouth and Smallmouth)	15 inches March 1–June 15	Open Year Round	Daily—5 in aggregate	
	12 inches June 16 through last day in February			
Black Drum	16 inches	Open Year Round	Daily—1 Boat Limit—6	
Black Sea Bass	12.5 inches	May 15–Dec 31	Daily—15	
Bluefish	8 inches	Open Year Round	Daily—10	
Catfish	None	Open Year Round	None	
Chain pickerel (Pike)	14 inches	CLOSED March 15–April 30	Daily—10	
Cobia	40 inches	June 1–September 30	Daily—1 Boat limit—3	
Croaker (Hardhead)	9 inches	Open Year Round	Daily—25	
Northern Snakehead	None	Open Year Round	None	Illegal to possess live snakehead fish.
Red drum (Channel Bass or Puppy Drum)	18–27 inches	Open Year Round	Daily—1	
Sharks	See <a href="https://web.archive.org/web/20190511171122/http://www.eregulations.com/maryland/fishing/highly-migratory-species/">Highly Migratory Species</a> ( <a href="https://web.archive.org/web/20190511171122/http://www.eregulations.com/maryland/fishing/highly-migratory-species/">https://web.archive.org/web/20190511171122/http://www.eregulations.com/maryland/fishing/highly-migratory-species/</a> ) Section			



