

2014

# DELAWARE FISHING GUIDE



## FISHING PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

See page 28

### What's **NEW** for 2014

- Bowfishing for Tidal Water Invasives
- Black Drum Regulations Apply Statewide
- Updated Black Sea Bass Regulations
- Online Largemouth Bass Tag Reporting



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL  
DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE





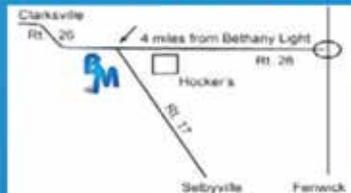
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Maps for this publication were created by the Office of the Secretary's GIS section. Fish illustrations were drawn by Duane Raver. The cover photo is from photo contest winner Joe Corning. A special thanks to the Delaware anglers and DNREC staff who donated pictures throughout this guide.

All of the information in this guide, and much more, may also be found on the Division's website [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov).

Doc. No. 40-05- 03/13/11/03



"F.I.N." NUMBER					"F.I.N." NUMBER				
NAME					NAME				

## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE



Fishing is enjoyed for its excitement, relaxation and time with family and friends. Your Division of Fish and Wildlife is committed to bringing you quality fishing in the great outdoors by scientifically managing sustainable fish populations and providing quality fishing and boating access facilities.

You as an angler are a key partner in helping us achieve quality fishing through your conservation ethic and financial commitment to fish conservation and fishing access. Anglers fund the majority of our fisheries management and research and public fishing access facilities through your purchase of fishing licenses used to match federal funding from purchases of fishing equipment. Delaware's 82,412

licensed recreational anglers currently generate nearly \$5.3 million in combined state and federal funds. On behalf of the Division, THANK YOU for financially supporting fish conservation and fishing.

Delaware's economy also benefits from recreational angler spending at sporting goods stores, restaurants, motels, gas stations, convenience stores and other businesses. Economic data from 2011 indicated that fishing contributes \$149.1 million to Delaware's economy and supports 1,319 jobs, serving an important role in Delaware's "conservation economy."

As an avid Delaware angler for many years, I hope to see you on the water. Wishing you "tight lines" this fishing season...

**David E. Saveikis**

# FISH & WILDLIFE DIRECTORY

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Governor

## DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

Collin P. O'Mara  
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## DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

David E. Saveikis  
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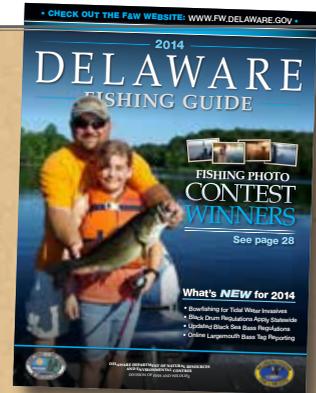
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State and Federal law prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion and/or disability. Complaints or inquiries should be directed to: Personnel Office, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, 89 Kings Highway, Dover, DE 19901.

This summary is for the convenience of the sportsman and is not intended to cover all fishing laws and regulations. For specific provisions, reference should be made to Title 7, Delaware Code. When federal and state laws conflict, the law which is more restrictive governs.

FOR THE ACTUAL WORDING OF THE FISHERIES STATUTES AND REGULATIONS, AS WELL AS A WIDE VARIETY OF OTHER INFORMATION, VISIT THE DIVISION'S WEBSITE AT [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov)



## About this Guide

This high-quality regulation guide is offered to you by the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

J.F. Griffin is an award winning publishing house that specializes in producing state fish & wildlife regulation books. J.F. Griffin supports DNREC's staff in the design, layout and editing of the guides. They also manage the marketing and sales of advertising to appropriate businesses within the book.

The revenue generated through ad sales significantly lowers production costs and generates savings. These savings translate into additional funds for other important fisheries programs.

If you have any feedback or are interested in advertising, please contact us at 413.884.1001 or online at [www.JFGriffin.com](http://www.JFGriffin.com)

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Evelyn Haddad, Erin Murphy,  
Chris Sobolowski

**Cover image by** Christopher Halsey



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## DIRECTORY

### DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE - [WWW.FW.DELAWARE.GOV](http://WWW.FW.DELAWARE.GOV)

F.I.N. number ..... (800) 432-9228  
F.I.N. Helpline.....(866) 447-4626  
Fisheries Section, Dover .....(302) 739-9914  
Fisheries Field Offices  
Little Creek ..... (302) 735-2960  
Woodland Beach..... (302) 735-8650  
Aquatic Resources  
Education Center ..... (302) 735-8652  
Recreational Fishing Licenses .....(302) 739-9918

### FISH AND WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT SECTION

Main Office .....(302) 739-9913  
Region 1  
(New Castle & Kent Counties).....(302) 739-6139  
Region 2 (Sussex County).....(302) 855-1901  
**24-hour hotline (KENTCOM)**  
for reporting violations, problems  
and fish kills ..... **(800) 523-3336**  
Boating Safety.....(302) 739-9915

Ramp Certificates.....(302) 739-9916  
Boat Registration.....(302) 739-9916

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Freshwater Trout Program .....(302) 739-9914  
Non-tidal Fishing.... (302) 739-9914 / (302) 735-8650  
Tidal Fishing..... (302) 739-9914 / (302) 735-2960  
Fish Consumption Advisories .....(302) 739-9914  
Division Public Health.....(302) 744-4546  
Artificial Reef Program ..... (302) 735-2960  
Fishing / Boating Access Areas .....(302) 739-9914  
Clamming.....(302) 735-2960  
Shellfish Health & Safety,  
Closures.....(302) 739-9939  
Crabbing ..... (302) 735-2960



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# 2014 LICENSE FEES

## 2014 LICENSE FEES

LICENSE CATEGORY	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
General Fishing License	\$8.50	\$20.00
7-day Tourist Fishing	NA	\$12.50
*Boat License 20 ft or less (optional)	\$40.00	\$40.00
*Boat License more than 20 ft (optional)	\$50.00	\$50.00
Head Boat License	\$300.00	\$600.00
Charter Boat License	\$150.00	\$300.00

**\* Boat License** - The optional boat license for a recreational fisherman covers the holder of the license, and all occupants in the boat, as do the charter boat and head boat licenses. A resident who purchases a Delaware boat-fishing license also will be given a single Delaware fishing license for their own use on those occasions that he or she may not be on the boat. A Delaware FIN is required of all anglers age 16 years or older on the vessel.

**Non-resident** - Any non-resident who is 16 years of age or older except persons covered by one of the exemptions is required to have a license to fish, clam, or crab in the waters of the State of Delaware. Non-residents may purchase a 7-consecutive day tourist fishing license.

## BEFORE YOU FISH

### BEFORE YOU GO FISHING, CRABBING, OR CLAMMING IN DELAWARE YOU MUST:

- Purchase a 2014 Delaware fishing license and keep it with you while fishing (page 5).
- Get a free 2014 FIN number (automatically generated with the purchase of an individual license) and keep it with you while fishing (page 6).
- If fishing for freshwater trout get a 2014 trout stamp and affix it to your license (page 9).

### WHILE FISHING, CRABBING, OR CLAMMING IN DELAWARE, YOU MUST:

- Abide by size and bag limits (fishing limits - pages 12-13, crabbing limits - page 13, clamming limits - page 13).
- Be aware of area and seasonal (Apr. 16 - Nov. 30) closures (page 17).

### PLEASE BE AWARE THAT:

- Delaware does not have fishing license reciprocity with other states. You must have a Delaware fishing license to fish, crab or clam in Delaware.
- Delaware does not recognize Federal FIN numbers or FIN numbers from other states. You must have a free Delaware FIN (page 5).
- You must have a New Jersey FIN number if you fish in New Jersey waters of Delaware Bay.

## WHAT'S NEW FOR 2014

- It is lawful to take the invasive fish species snakehead, blue catfish, flathead catfish, walking catfish and grass carp with a bow and arrow in the tidal waters of the State.
- Delaware's black drum minimum size limit (16 inches) and daily limit (3 fish) now apply statewide. Formerly these measures only applied to the Delaware Estuary.
- Delaware's recreational black sea bass season and daily limits have changed. The open

seasons are now May 19 - October 14 and November 1 - December 31 with a daily limit of 20 fish. The minimum size limit remains 12.5 inches (excluding the caudal filament).

- Anglers that catch a tagged largemouth bass from the Nanticoke River, Broad Creek or Broadkill River can now report their information online at [www.de.gov/basstagreturns](http://www.de.gov/basstagreturns).



## 2014 FREE FISHING DAYS!

In celebration of National Fishing and Boating Week, June 1 - 8, the Division has designated June 7 and 8 as free fishing days when anyone may fish in Delaware's waters without a fishing license.

## FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

You can now follow us on Facebook at:  
[www.facebook.com/DelawareFishWildlife](http://www.facebook.com/DelawareFishWildlife)



## PUBLIC PONDS

A guide to public ponds, available online, is updated annually with the latest fisheries data. Each pond's information includes: fish populations, vegetation conditions, special regulations and facilities, and a contour map of the pond.

This information is available at:  
[www.fw.delaware.gov/fisheries/pages/DelawarePondBooklet.aspx](http://www.fw.delaware.gov/fisheries/pages/DelawarePondBooklet.aspx).



# FISHING LICENSE INFORMATION

## FISHING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS AND FIN NUMBER

A general fishing license is required for fishing, crabbing, or clamming in tidal and non-tidal waters throughout the State of Delaware (see Fishing License Exemptions page 6). A fishing license may be obtained at DNREC headquarters (89 Kings Highway, Dover), online, or from over 85 licensing agents located throughout the state by accessing [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) and following the licensing link. A fishing license is good through December 31 for the calendar year in which it was issued.

In addition to the general fishing license, all anglers (resident and non-resident) age 16 or older must obtain a free Delaware Fisherman Information Network (FIN) number each year before fishing in tidal or non-tidal waters of Delaware. This includes those anglers exempt from obtaining a general fishing license. See these exemptions on page 6. A FIN number is automatically generated and issued with the purchase of an INDIVIDUAL fishing license. Non-residents who do not have an individual fishing license AND those exempt from the license requirement must obtain a FIN number before fishing.

A FIN number can be obtained by automated telephone 1-800-432-9228 (toll free), or for live operator/customer service at 1-866-447-4626 (toll free) or by visiting the website at [www.delaware-fin.com](http://www.delaware-fin.com). The FIN number is mandatory and failure to provide a valid FIN number to an enforcement agent will be treated the same as a failure to have a valid fishing license. The number that you are

issued will be valid through December 31 for the calendar year in which it was issued. A FIN number is not needed if you only crab or clam.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will use the data obtained from the FIN program to identify anglers for survey purposes. The program allows for better estimates of recreational landings, an important component of fisheries management.

All funds derived from the issuance of fish-

ing licenses are dedicated to a special account for the purpose of matching and securing federal money allotted to Delaware under the provisions of the Federal Aid in Sportfish Restoration Act and cannot be diverted to other purposes. Together, these funds support projects having as their purpose the restoration, conservation, management and enhancement of sportfish, and the provision for public use and benefits from these resources (page 21).

## CATCH AND RELEASE

Many anglers practice catch and release fishing. This behavior, popularized by bass anglers, promotes the release of fish by anglers so the fish can be caught again. A long-term bass tagging study in Delaware has demonstrated many tagged fish are caught, released, and caught again — a few as many as four times. The Division strongly encourages catch and release fishing to maximize angling success — unless a fish population is known to be over crowded.



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# FISHING LICENSE INFORMATION

## FISHING LICENSE EXEMPTIONS AND EXCEPTIONS

Exempt anglers are required to get a FIN number (page 5), unless otherwise noted below.

The following are exemptions or exceptions to the license provisions:

- **Surf Fishing Permit** - Residents and non-residents are exempt from fishing license requirements if they are the operator of a vehicle with a valid Delaware surf fishing vehicle permit when that vehicle is located on a designated Delaware State Park beach. Other occupants of that vehicle are required to have a fishing license if they are fishing.
- **Seniors** - Residents of the State of Delaware age 65 years and older are exempt from fishing license requirements, but must have proof of age and residency.
- **Children** - Children under the age of 16 are exempt from the license and FIN requirement.
- **Other Exemptions** - Anyone qualifying for the following exemptions should contact the Division at (302) 739-9918.
  - » Any resident who owns or lives on a farm in this state containing 20 or more acres and the members of his or her immediate family who reside on the farm may fish on that farm without a license.

- » A member of the armed forces who is a patient in a military hospital and submits a written statement signed by the patient's commanding officer certifying the nature of the disability and place of station.
- » Persons who are patients in any Veterans Administration facility in this State, or in any public hospital or sanitarium for the treatment of tuberculosis, or a patient in a rehabilitation hospital under the State Department of Health, provided such person carries identification which verifies his or her status as such a patient, shall not be required to purchase a fishing license. Forms shall be supplied to such persons when they apply for their licenses to be used for the identification purposes.
- » Residents living in this State for at least 1 year immediately prior to the date of application for a license who have been honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States and certified by the Veterans Administration as having at least a 60% service-connected disability.
- » Any Delaware resident that is a patient in a rehabilitation hospital under the Department of Health and Social Services.

- » Any Delaware resident who is legally blind.
- » Any person who fishes in a fee-fishing facility, registered as such with the Department of Agriculture.
- » Any resident who has served honorably for 90 or more consecutive days on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, including service as a member of the Delaware National Guard, in military actions in Southwest Asia associated with Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom may, for the first 12 months following the date the resident was honorably discharged or removed from active status, be issued a license to fish in this State without charge.
- » Any member of the US armed forces, including any reserve component, serving on full time active duty in Delaware while not deployed or on temporary duty, and any member of Delaware's National Guard, shall be eligible for a resident fishing license. Qualifying persons should contact the Division at (302) 739-9918.



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## 28TH ANNUAL YOUTH FISHING TOURNAMENT

As part of its activities for National Fishing and Boating Week, June 1-8, the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife will hold its 28th annual Youth Fishing Tournament from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Saturday June 7, 2014. The event will take place at Ingrams Pond in Millsboro, Wyoming Pond in Town Park, Wyoming, and at the Lums Pond State Park dog training area.

This fishing event is for youths ages 4 to 15. An adult must accompany youths under age 12 and contestants should bring their own fishing equipment. The tournament is free to the public and prizes will be awarded in three age groups: 4-7; 8-11; and 12-15.

The tournament was established to introduce youth to the sport of fishing and to teach the catch and release approach to conservation. There is no pre-registration nor entrance fee required and the tournament is held rain or shine.

In addition to the youth fishing tournament celebrating National Fishing and Boating Week, the Division has designated June 7 and 8, 2014 as free fishing days when anyone may fish in Delaware's waters without a fishing license.

### Delaware's Small Pond Program

The Division has nine small ponds scattered throughout the State which offer shore angling targeted at youth. The ponds range from 1/2 to 8 acres and contain good populations of largemouth bass and bluegill. Catch and release is the order of the day so barbless hooks are required at most. A brochure listing the pond locations and available facilities is available online ([www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov)), or by calling 302-735-8650.



# GENERAL NON-TIDAL FISHING REGULATIONS

These are some of the regulations and state statutes that all anglers should be familiar with. Most have been edited to make them easier to read and understand. **This is not a complete list and it is up to the angler to be familiar with all of the laws and regulations currently existing or newly adopted.** For a complete listing, refer to the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Division of Fish and Wildlife website or request a copy from the Director's office.

Unless otherwise authorized, it shall be illegal for any person to fish for any freshwater fish in the non-tidal waters of this State with any fishing equipment or by any method, unless it is provided for in the following subdivisions:

A hook and line may be used, with each line to have no more than 3 hooks or 3 separate lures with hooks.

Unless a person is fishing through the ice, the number of hooks and lines that any person is permitted to use to fish for any freshwater fish in the non-tidal waters of the State shall be no more than 2.

A person may use a dip net to aid in landing any freshwater finfish taken or caught by hook and line in the non-tidal or fresh waters of the State.

Carp and snakehead fish may be taken and/or fished for by using a bow and arrow and/or spear, unless said equipment or method is otherwise restricted by any Department regulation or local ordinance. At this time, no carp or snakehead fish may be taken from State Park ponds or Becks Pond using bow and arrow.

It is illegal to sell, trade, or barter any finfish

taken from the non-tidal waters of this State, unless authorized to do so in a permit issued by the Director.

It is illegal to take shad, except by hook and line, and no more than two (2) lures attached. Each lure may have no more than one (1) single pointed hook.

It is illegal to knowingly snag fish in non-tidal waters with any hook (single, double or treble) or otherwise catch or attempt to snag or catch any game fish by hooking the fish in any part of the body other than in the mouth.

It shall be unlawful for any person to fish within ten (10) feet of an entrance or exit of a fish ladder or to remove fish from any fish ladder between March 15 and May 30.

## CLOSURE OF DEPARTMENT PONDS DURING DRAW-DOWNS

It shall be unlawful for any person to fish in any pond or lake administered by the Department when the water level is lowered for any purpose provided it is duly posted with signs by the Department that state it is closed to fishing.

## SPEED AND WAKE OF MOTORBOATS ON DIVISION PONDS

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motorized vessel, except at a **slow-no-wake speed**, on any pond or lake administered by the Division.

## CLEAN WATER

### How's My Waterway

How's My Waterway ([www.epa.gov/mywaterway](http://www.epa.gov/mywaterway)) helps users quickly find information on the condition of their local waters using a smart phone, tablet, or desktop computer. This tool provides results within seconds using EPA's water quality assessment data. Check out the condition of your local waterbody today!

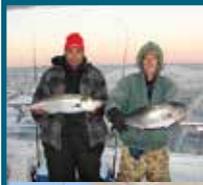


Photo shows an algae bloom.

## Fisherman's Wharf By The Drawbridge, Lewes, DE

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# FRESHWATER TROUT FISHING

## LICENSE AND STAMP REQUIREMENTS FOR TROUT FISHING

RESIDENT / AGE	FISHING LICENSE	YOUNG ANGLER TROUT STAMP	TROUT STAMP	FIN
Under 12	No	No	No	No
12 thru 15	No	Yes	No	No
16 thru 64	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
65 and over	No	No	No	Yes
<b>FEE</b>	<b>\$8.50</b>	<b>\$2.10</b>	<b>\$4.20</b>	<b>NONE</b>

NON-RESIDENT / AGE	FISHING LICENSE	YOUNG ANGLER TROUT STAMP	TROUT STAMP	FIN
Under 12	No	No	No	No
12 thru 15	No	No	Yes	No
16 and over	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>FEE</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>		<b>\$6.20</b>	<b>NONE</b>

It shall be unlawful for any person to transport, purchase, possess, or sell walking catfish (*Clarius batrachus*) or the white amur or grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*) or live northern snakehead fish (*Channa argus*) or blotched snakehead fish (*Channa maculata*) without the written permission of the Director.

## TRASH-FREE

### Reminder: Keep Fishing and Boat Launching Areas Trash-Free!

The Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife has a carry-in, carry-out policy for state wildlife areas, fishing piers and boat launching facilities. Trash cans are not provided, and visitors are expected to take their trash with them when they leave. To help ensure that these wild lands and public facilities are kept clean and trash-free, don't forget to pack a trash bag for your next fishing trip.



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# FRESHWATER TROUT FISHING

## FRESHWATER TROUT FISHING

Delaware's freshwater trout program is a self-supporting put-and-take fishery in selected New Castle County streams and Kent and Sussex County ponds. Revenue generated from the sales of trout stamps is used to purchase rainbow, brook and/or brown trout for stocking (see page 10). Summer water temperatures limit trout survival and reproduction in Delaware waters, so stocked fish are meant to be taken, but may be released at the angler's discretion.

**Season / Hours** - The 2014 freshwater trout season in Tidbury (Kent County) and Newton (Sussex County) Ponds opens at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday March 1, 2014.

The 2014 freshwater trout season in New Castle County opens at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday April 5, 2014.

**No fishing is allowed in designated trout streams or designated trout ponds (Tidbury & Newton Ponds) two weeks (14 days) prior to the scheduled opening of the trout season.**

It is unlawful to fish for trout in designated trout streams or designated trout ponds between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise.

**Trout Stamps** - A trout stamp is required to fish in a designated **trout stream** from the first Saturday in April through June 30 and from the first Saturday in October through November 30 unless exempted by law. A trout stamp is also required to fish **Tidbury Pond** in Kent County and **Newton Pond** in Sussex County from the first Saturday in March through April 1. Stamps are available online in electronic form, or a printed stamp may be obtained at DNREC Headquarters (89 Kings Hwy, Dover). All stamps must be signed across the face to legally trout fish. Purchasers of electronically issued stamps may obtain an original printed stamp by calling 302-739-9918. A stamp will be mailed to you after December 31, 2014.

## SPECIAL FLY FISHING ONLY SECTIONS (RESTRICTED TROUT STREAMS)

White Clay Creek from a point 25 yards above Thompson Bridge at Chambers Rock Road to the Pennsylvania state line is designated as a fly-fishing only trout stream (restricted trout waters).

It is unlawful to use any metallic, plastic or rubber spinners, spoons, lures, plugs or natural bait or to use more than two (2) flies on a line at any one time.

It is unlawful to possess more than four (4) trout within 50 feet of a fly fishing only section (restricted trout waters). Anglers may catch and release trout on these waters as long as the four (4) trout possession limit is not exceeded. All trout released must be returned to the water as quickly as possible with the least possible injury.

## POSSESSION LIMITS OF TROUT

It shall be unlawful for any person to possess more than six (6) trout in any one day; except, it shall be unlawful to possess more than four (4) trout in or within 50 feet of any fly-fishing only waters (restricted trout streams).

## COLLECTING STAMPS

If you are interested in collecting trout or duck stamps, please contact the Division 302-739-9918 or visit our website at [www.fw.delaware.gov/Fisheries/Pages/TroutStamp.aspx](http://www.fw.delaware.gov/Fisheries/Pages/TroutStamp.aspx)



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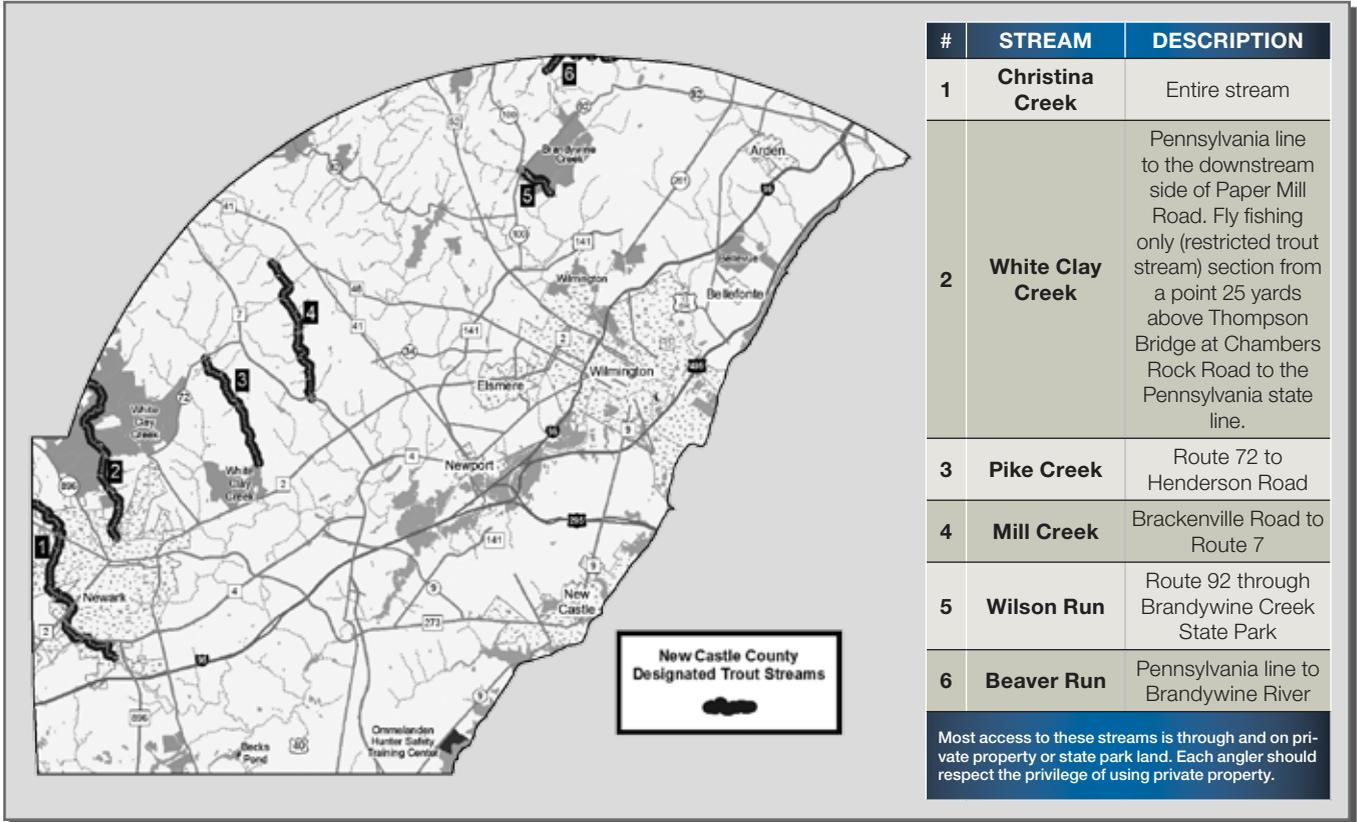


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# FRESHWATER TROUT FISHING



## 2014 TENTATIVE TROUT STOCKING SCHEDULE

WATER	PRIOR TO SEASON*	MARCH 13	APRIL 7	APRIL 10	APRIL 14	APRIL 17**	APRIL 24	MAY 1**	MID OCTOBER
<b>STREAMS (SEASON OPENS 7:30 A.M., APRIL 5)</b>									
Beaver Run	🐟			🐟	🐟				
Christina Creek	🐟			🐟	🐟	🐟	🐟		
Mill Creek	🐟			🐟					
Pike Creek	🐟			🐟					
White Clay Creek	🐟		🐟	🐟	🐟	🐟	🐟	🐟	🐟
Wilson Run	🐟			🐟	🐟	🐟	🐟***		
<b>PONDS (SEASON OPENS 7 A.M., MARCH 1)</b>									
Newton Pond	🐟	🐟							
Tidbury Pond	🐟	🐟							

\* Prior to season: stocking includes trophy-sized rainbow trout (14 inches or greater) at all locations.  
 \*\* April 17 and May 1: Brown trout averaging 11 inches will be stocked at locations listed.  
 \*\*\* April 24: Stocking of 11 inch and trophy-sized rainbows to prepare for annual disabled anglers fishing derby on April 26, 2014 in Wilson Run at Brandywine State Park.  
 For details on the fishing derby, please call the park office at 302-577-3534.

**It shall be unlawful for any person to stock any species of fish into the non-tidal public waters of this State without the written permission of the Director. This regulation does not prohibit the stocking of private impoundments.**

## EDUCATION

Anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1978 must successfully complete an approved boating safety course before operating a motorboat and/or Personal Watercraft (PWC) in Delaware. Approved courses are a State of Delaware sponsored course, a U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary course, a U.S. Power Squadron course, Delaware Safety Council or any other state course which is approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and DNREC.

**Four Leading Causes of Boating Fatalities in Delaware Waters are:**

1. Not wearing a PFD or wearing it unzipped
2. Collision (including PWC accidents)
3. Capsizing
4. Alcohol

## ALCOHOL

Just as drinking and driving don't mix, drinking and boating are a dangerous combination. Sun, glare from the water, constant boat motion and boat vibration all contribute to boater fatigue. Add alcohol consumption and those problems are compounded. Additionally, alcohol affects balance and muscle coordination, causes tunnel vision and slows reaction time. It also affects reasoning and increases the tendency to take risks.

Operating a boat under the influence of alcohol or drugs is against the law and could result in fines up to \$1,000 for first offense and/or up to 60 days in jail. A blood alcohol content of 0.08 or greater constitutes being under the influence.

## REGISTRATION, NUMBERING AND MARKING OF UNDOCUMENTED VESSELS

Vessels equipped with any type of motor must be registered in Delaware if principally used (a period of more than 60 days) in this State. The registration card or valid temporary registration card must be on board when the

boat is in use. For further information on boating registration call: (302) 739-9916.

## PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES (PFDs)

In addition to the carriage requirements listed, a PFD must be worn by a child 12 years old or under while aboard a boat which is underway and all PWC riders. Current regulations require all vessels to carry a wearable Type I, II, III, or V PFD for each person onboard and a throw cushion type IV for the boat, excluding boats less than 16'. The Boating Education Office suggests all vessels carry a type IV throwable with a line attached for casting, and that you wear your life jacket zipped.

## NEGLIGENT OPERATION

Skippers on Delaware waters are legally responsible for damages to life, limb or property caused by his/her vessel. And, of course, negligent operation is illegal.

## SAFE BOATING SPEED

The speed of all vessels on Delaware waters must be slow enough to prevent any wake of appreciable height when the vessels are within 100 feet of: "Slow-No-Wake" speed areas, docks, launching ramps, marked swimming areas, swimmers, anchored, moored, or drifting vessels.

Every year people are killed or seriously injured in boating accidents in Delaware's waters. All of these accidents were avoidable if the 'rules of the road' had been followed and safe boating practices had been adhered to. The Handbook of Delaware Boating Laws and Responsibilities is available at no cost by contacting the Enforcement Section of the Division of Fish and Wildlife (1-302-739-9915) or through our website [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov).

The Enforcement Section of the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife is responsible for enforcing all of the safe boating laws as well as making sure that fish and shellfish size and creel limits are being followed. Some of the waters of the State are also patrolled by other authorities such as police officers and the U.S.

Coast Guard. Boaters approached by a patrol boat with its blue light flashing should reduce speed, yield the right of way to the patrol boat, or if necessary stop your vessel. The operator must stop when requested to do so by a law enforcement officer.

The safety equipment and requirements for Delaware boaters vary depending on the type and length of the vessel. Here is an example of what is required of a typical fishing boat from 16 to 26 feet in length. For a complete list of all requirements for all size vessels contact the Enforcement Section.

- Boater Safety Education Card (for all operators born after January 1, 1978). For information contact 739-9915 or go to our website.
- Valid Boat Registration Card
- Valid Boat Registration decal (displayed)
- Personal Floatation Device(s) - one of the appropriate size for each person on-board
- Type IV throwable PFD
- Type B-I Fire Extinguisher
- Flame Arrestor
- Ventilation System for fuel vapors
- Horn, Whistle, or Bell
- Visual Distress System (day and night)
- Navigational Lights

It is the responsibility of each vessel operator to observe the rules of the road and the carriage requirements. The Division recommends boaters wear their life jacket at all times while on the boat. Six out of ten boating fatalities could be prevented by boaters wearing their life jackets. The consistent use of life jackets will save more lives.

## SURF FISHING

The Division of Parks and Recreation surf fishing beaches are located in Cape Henlopen State Park, Delaware Seashore State Park and Fenwick Island State Park, and on Beach Plum Island. Special restrictions and regulations apply to these areas. For more information contact the Division of Parks and Recreation, (302) 739-9220.

In order to drive a vehicle on a designated State Park beach, a SURF FISHING VEHICLE PERMIT is required. Only four-wheel drive vehicles with a minimum ground clearance of seven inches that are licensed to operate on public roadways are eligible for Surf Fishing Vehicle Permits. Permit holders must be actively engaged in surf fishing while on the beach. Permits are available at State Park offices, various license agents, and at the DNREC main office in Dover.

Purchasers of Surf Fishing Vehicle Permits will receive additional rules and safety requirements. The revenue collected from these permits supports the management of seashore State Parks and beaches. None of the proceeds from these permits go towards fisheries management programs or fishing access projects conducted by the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

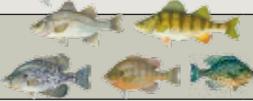
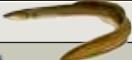


Ben Smith landed the state record striped bass while surf fishing at Delaware Seashore State Park in 2012!

Zach Pillarelli

**2014 SEASONS, SIZE AND CREEL LIMITS**

**DELAWARE'S RECREATIONAL SEASONS, SIZE AND CREEL LIMITS**

NON-TIDAL WATERS				
SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	
 <b>Largemouth bass</b>	All year	12 inches; except 15 inches in Becks Pond	6; except 2 from Becks Pond	
 <b>Smallmouth bass</b>	All year	None between 12 - 17 inches	6 (no more than 1 > 17 inches)	
 <b>Striped bass hybrid</b> (Only occur in Lums Pond)	All year	15 inches	2	
 <b>Panfish</b> (white perch, yellow perch, crappie, bluegill & pumpkinseed)	All year	None	50 (no more than 25 of one species)	
 <b>Trout</b> (special rules apply, pages 8 - 10)	Streams open 1st Sat. in April Ponds open 1st Sat. in March	None	6 (4 in fly-fishing only waters)	
TIDAL WATERS				
SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	
 <b>American eel</b>	All year	6 inches	50	
 <b>American &amp; hickory shad</b>	Closed Nanticoke R. & its tribs.; Open all year elsewhere	None	10 in any combination	
 <b>Atlantic croaker</b>	All year	8 inches	None	
 <b>Atlantic sturgeon</b>	Endangered - no harvest permitted (see page 23)			
 <b>Black drum</b>	All year	16 inches	3	
 <b>Black sea bass</b>	May 19 - Oct. 14	12.5 inches (excluding caudal filament)	20	
	Nov. 1 - Dec. 31		20	
 <b>Bluefish</b>	All year	None	10	
 <b>Catfish</b> (any species)	All year	None	None	
 <b>Red drum</b>	All year	20 - 27 inches may be retained	5	
 <b>River herring</b> (alewife & blueback)	Closed - no harvest permitted			
 <b>Scup</b>	All year	8 inches	50	
 <b>Spanish mackerel</b>	All year	14 inches	15	
 <b>Spotted seatrout</b>	All year	12 inches	None	
 <b>Striped bass</b>	All year	28 inches, except only 20 - 26 inch fish may be retained from July 1 - Aug. 31 in DE River, DE Bay & their tribs (DE waters only).	2, except catch & release only on spawning grounds April 1 - May 31	
 <b>Summer flounder</b>	All year	17 inches	4	
 <b>Tautog</b>	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31	15 inches	5	
	April 1 - May 11		3	
	July 17 - Aug. 31		5	
	Sept. 29 - Dec. 31		5	
 <b>Weakfish</b>	All year	13 inches	1	
 <b>White perch</b>	All year	8 inches	None	
 <b>Winter flounder</b>	Feb. 11 - Apr. 10	12 inches	2	

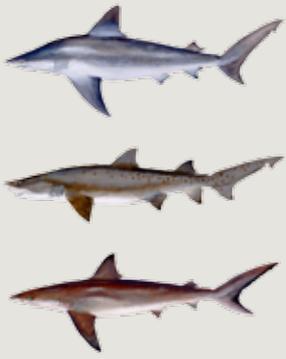
# 2014 SEASONS, SIZE AND CREEL LIMITS

SPECIES		OPEN SEASON	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
<b>Blue crab</b>	 See page 21 for more details	Pots: Mar. 1 - Nov. 30; other gears year around	Peeler - 3 inches	1 bushel
			Soft-shell - 3.5 inches	
			Hard-shell - 5 inches	
<b>Hard clams</b>		All year	1.5 inches	100/resident 50/non-resident
<b>Lobster</b>		All year	3 3/8 - 5 1/4 inches (slot)	2; V-notched prohibited
<b>Conch</b>	Knobbed whelk	All year	6 inches / 3.5 inch whorl	5 bushels
	Channeled whelk	All year	6 inches / 3.125 inch whorl	5 bushels

**SHARKS AND HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES (HMS) - SPECIAL PERMIT MAY BE REQUIRED FOR FEDERAL WATERS**

SPECIES		OPEN SEASON	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
	<b>Spiny &amp; smooth dogfish</b>	All year	None	None
	<b>Blacktip shark, bull shark, great hammerhead, lemon shark, nurse shark, scalloped hammerhead, silky shark, smooth hammerhead, spinner shark, tiger shark</b>	Jan. 1 -May 14	54 inches FORK LENGTH	Boat anglers- only 1 shark of any species per vessel, except 1 additional bonnethead and 1 additional Atlantic sharpnose per angler onboard vessel. Shore anglers - only 1 shark of any species per angler, except 1 additional bonnethead and one additional Atlantic sharpnose per shore angler.
		July 16 - Dec. 31		
	<b>Blue shark, oceanic white-tip shark, porbeagle, shortfin mako, thresher shark</b>	All year	54 inches FORK LENGTH	
	<b>Atlantic sharpnose shark, blacknose shark, bonnethead, finetooth shark</b>	All year	None	

**PROHIBITED SPECIES**

	<b>Sandbar shark, sand tiger, Atlantic angel shark, basking shark, bigeye sand tiger, bigeye sixgill shark, bigeye thresher, bignose shark, Caribbean reef shark, Caribbean sharpnose shark, dusky shark, Galapagos shark, longfin mako, narrowtooth shark, night shark, sevengill shark, sixgill shark, smalltail shark, whale shark, white shark</b>	The sandbar & sand tiger are toothed sharks commonly taken in the nearshore waters of the state and are prohibited species. Like all prohibited species, they must be immediately released to ensure the maximum probability of survival.
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**SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS FOR SHARK**

- It is unlawful to fillet a shark prior to landing. A shark may be eviscerated prior to landing, but head, tail and fins must remain attached to the carcass.
- It is unlawful to release a shark in a manner that will not ensure the sharks maximum probability of survival (i.e. no gaffs, no clubbing, careful hook removal, etc.).
- It is unlawful to possess the fins from any shark prior to landing unless they are naturally attached to the body of the shark.

**TUNAS AND HMS - SPECIAL PERMIT REQUIRED**

	<b>Atlantic tunas, swordfish and billfish</b>	*Special permit required - All private vessel owners/operators recreationally fishing for and/or retaining regulated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (Atlantic tunas, sharks, swordfish and billfish) for personal use in the Atlantic Ocean must obtain an Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Angling Permit. Further limits and restrictions apply. Consult <a href="http://www.hmspermits.gov">www.hmspermits.gov</a> or call toll free (888) 872-8862 for specific information and permits.
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## 2014 'TAKE A KID FISHING' DAYS!

Do you know a child or young teen who might enjoy learning about fishing and trying their hand at landing a fish? In the Delaware Division of Fish & Wildlife's *Take a Kid Fishing!* program, they can do just that! Sponsored by DNREC's Aquatic Resource Education Center, *Take a Kid Fishing!* teaches young people fundamental fishing skills and conservation. This free event also features activity stations, prizes and of course, fishing. All equipment will be provided.

### TAKE A KID FISHING! DAYS ARE SCHEDULED FOR THE FOLLOWING SATURDAYS:

April 12th at Abbotts Mill Nature Center in Milford 10AM-1PM

April 19th at the Aquatic Resource Education Center in Smyrna 10AM-1PM

May 3rd at Killens Pond State Park in Felton 10AM-1PM

May 17th at Lums Pond State Park in Bear 10AM-1PM

June 21st at the Aquatic Resource Education Center in Smyrna 10AM-1PM

July 19th at Redden State Forest in Georgetown 10AM-1PM

\* While the events are free, participants 16 years and older must have a current Delaware fishing license and a FIN number to fish.

### REGISTRATION

Participation in the program is free of charge, but pre-registration is required. Please register online at - [www.surveymonkey.com/s/TAKF](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TAKF). To get more information on our *Take a Kid Fishing!* program, please contact Tess Belcher at [Theresa.Belcher@state.de.us](mailto:Theresa.Belcher@state.de.us) or (302) 735-8656.

This program is part of Delaware's Children in Nature Initiative, a statewide effort to improve environmental literacy in Delaware, create opportunities for children to participate in enriching outdoor experiences, combat childhood obesity and promote healthy lifestyles. Delaware's multi-agency initiative, which partners state and federal agencies with community organizations, is in conjunction with the national No Child Left Inside program.

## NON-TIDAL FISHING ACCESS AREAS

AREA	LOCATION	ACRES	BOAT RAMP	SHORE FISHING
1	Becks Pond (No gas motors)	25	Yes	Yes
2	Garrisons Lake	86	Yes	Yes
3	Masseys Mill Pond	30	Unimproved	Yes
4	Moore's Lake	27	Yes	Yes
5	Derby Pond	23	Yes	Yes
6	Logan Lane Pond	2	No	♿ Only
7	Mud Mill Pond	60	Yes	Yes
8	McGinnis Pond	31	Yes	Yes
9	Andrews Lake	18	Yes	Limited
10	Coursey Pond	58	Yes	Yes
11	McColley Pond	49	No	Limited
12	Tubmill Pond	5	Yes	Limited
13	Silver Lake (Milford)	29	No	Yes
14	Haven Lake	82	Yes	Limited
15	Griffith Lake	32	Yes	Yes
16	Blairs Pond	29	Yes	Yes
17	Abbotts Pond	17	Yes	Yes
18	Newton Pond (No gas motors)	10	Car top only	Yes
19	Waples Pond	51	Unimproved	Limited
20	Wagamons Pond	41	Yes	Yes
21	Hearns Pond	53	Yes	Yes
22	Concord Pond	77	Yes	Limited
23	Craigs Pond	12	Yes	Yes
24	Millsboro Pond	101	Yes	Limited
25	Ingrams Pond	24	Yes	Yes
26	Portsville Pond	15	Yes	Limited
27	Records Pond	92	Yes	♿ Pier
28	Chipman Pond	52	Yes	Yes
29	Horsey Pond	46	Yes	Yes
30	Tussock Pond	9	Yes	Limited
39	Fleetwood Pond	43	No	Limited
<b>PARKS AND RECREATION ACCESS AREAS*</b>				
31	Lums Pond	189	Yes	Yes
32	Killens Pond	75	Unimproved	Yes
36	Trap Pond	88	Yes	Yes
37	Trussum Pond	73	Car top only	No
38	Raccoon Pond	14	Car top only	Limited

\*Area number refers to the numbered red or brown boxes on the Fishing Areas map (see map on page 17).

Access areas are closed from sunset until sunrise unless fishing.

\*A seasonal or daily fee may be required at access areas administered by the Division of Parks and Recreation.

# TIDAL FISHING ACCESS AREAS

AREA	LOCATION / WATER BODY	BOAT RAMPS	FISHING PIERS	PARKING
1	7th Street Park / Christina, Brandywine and DE Rivers	Closed	1	24
2	Newport Boat Ramp / Christina River	♿ 2	1	54
3	Churchmans Road / Christina River	♿ 1	none	17
4	Fort DuPont State Park / DE River	♿ 3	none	135
5	Canal Wildlife Area / C&D Canal	none	♿ 4	along road
6	Augustine Beach / DE River	♿ 2	1	65
7	Odessa / Appoquinimink River	1	none	2
8	Collins Beach / DE Bay	♿ 3	1	120
9	Woodland Beach / DE Bay	1	♿ 1	50
10	Woodland Bch. / Duck Creek / DE Bay	2	none	18
11	Port Mahon / DE Bay	3	1	50
12	Water Street (Dover) / St. Jones River	car top	none	as available
13	Lebanon Landing / St. Jones River	1	♿ 1	7
14	Scotton Landing / St. Jones River	1	♿ 1	10
15	Bowers Beach / DE Bay	♿ 5	none	200
16	Cedar Creek / DE Bay	♿ 8	none	150
17	Front St., Milford / Mispillion River	♿ 1	1	10
18	Milton / Broadkill River	♿ 1	♿ 1 / 1	9 / 8
19	Lewes / DE Bay	♿ 6	none	128
20	Masseys Landing / Indian River & Rehoboth Bay	♿ 4	♿ 1	100
21	Rosedale Bch. / Indian River	♿ 2	♿ 1	30
22	Seaford / Nanticoke River	♿ 4	♿ 1	93
23	Phillips Landing/Broad Creek/ Nanticoke River	♿ 3	none	50
24	Edward R. Koch / Broad Creek (shoreline fishing only)	none	none	10
25	Laurel below Records Pond / Broad Creek	♿ 1	♿ 2	17
26	Assawoman Wildlife Area / Little Assawoman Bay	♿ 2	2	20
<b>PARKS &amp; RECREATION AREAS*</b>				
33	Cape Henlopen Fishing Pier	none	♿ 1	75
34	Indian River Marina	♿ 2	No	40
	Indian River Inlet	none	along inlet	200
35	Holts Landing/ Indian River Bay	1	Yes	25

\*Area number refers to the numbered yellow or brown boxes on the Fishing Area map (see map on page 17).

Access areas are closed from sunset to sunrise unless you are fishing.

Note - All motor boats launched from tidal access areas administered by the Division of Fish and Wildlife must be registered in Delaware or have a valid ramp certificate. Ramp certificates cost \$35 and are available from the Division of Fish and Wildlife or authorized agents (see page 25).

\* A daily or seasonal fee may be required at areas administered by the Division of Parks and Recreation.

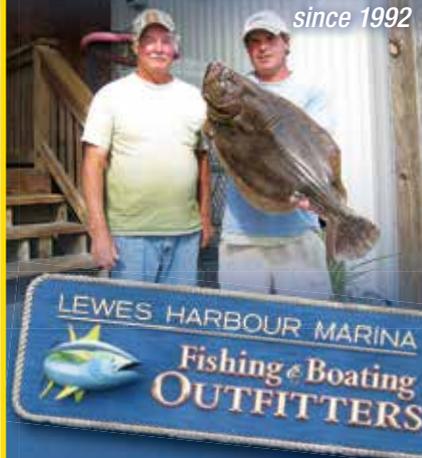
## RECREATIONAL GILL NETS

Gear and seasonal restrictions apply to recreational gill nets and anyone obtaining a permit will be informed of these restrictions. During 2014, all gill nets must be removed from the Delaware Bay and Ocean on the following dates: May 2-11; May 16-18; May 23-26; May 30-June 1; June 6-8; June 13-15; June 20-22; June 26 - 30 in order to reduce weakfish mortality rates as required by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Weakfish Management Plan. Each closure period begins at 12:01 a.m. on the first day and ends at midnight on the last day. No striped bass caught in recreational gill nets may be retained at any time.

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# INVASIVE SPECIES

## Northern Snakehead (Mature)

Northern snakehead are identified by a long dorsal (back) fin and anal fin, a rounded tail, and a large mouth reaching beyond the eye with many, sharp teeth. The young are generally lighter tan or yellowish in color.



## Northern Snakehead (Juvenile)



## Bowfin (Native)

Bowfin, a native species, is sometimes mistaken for snakeheads but has a short anal fin. Please return bowfin to the water.



## Flathead Catfish

Flathead catfish are most easily recognized by their broad, flat head, brown mottled coloration and lower jaw which sticks out further than the upper.



## Blue Catfish & Channel Catfish

The invasive blue catfish (on top), and a channel catfish (lower) can be differentiated by spreading out the anal fin and looking for a straight or lobed appearance.



**CLEAN** all visible aquatic plants from watercraft and trailers as well as waders and boots.

**DRAIN** equipment (boat bilge, ballast tanks, bait containers, motor) before leaving any water access area.

**DISPOSE** of unwanted live bait (minnows, worms) in the trash.

**REPORT:** In most cases, new fish species that are introduced into our waters don't survive or present a problem. But some may flourish and potentially cause ecological or economic harm. When there is harm, these species are called invasive. Currently, we have several species in our waters that we are tracking as potentially invasive and the department could use your help to document new sites. If you catch something you feel is unusual, **please call 302-739-9914**. If you catch a Northern snakehead, blue catfish or flathead catfish please do not return it to the water, but kill it and contact us. Document the catch by freezing it or taking a good photo.



## STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

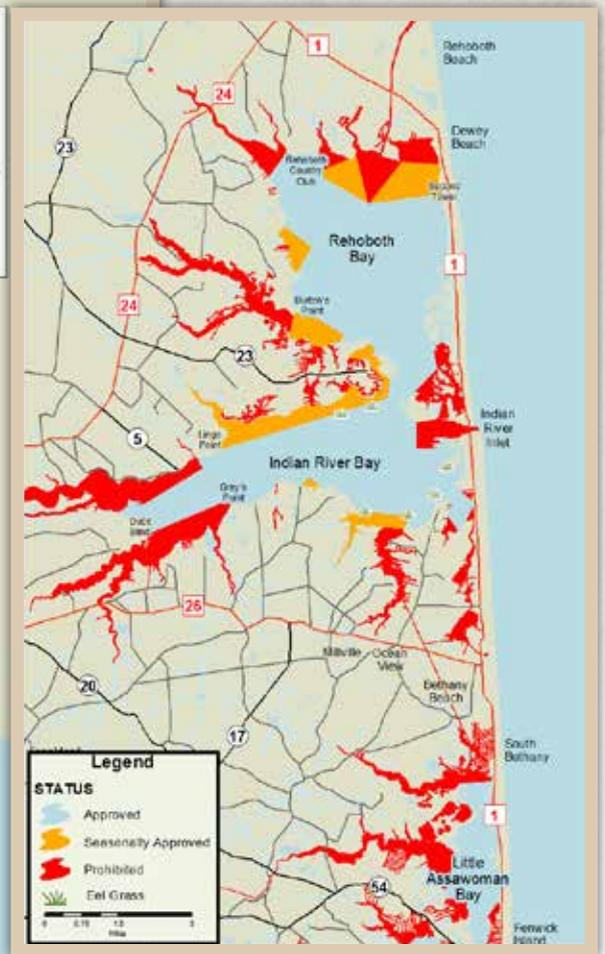
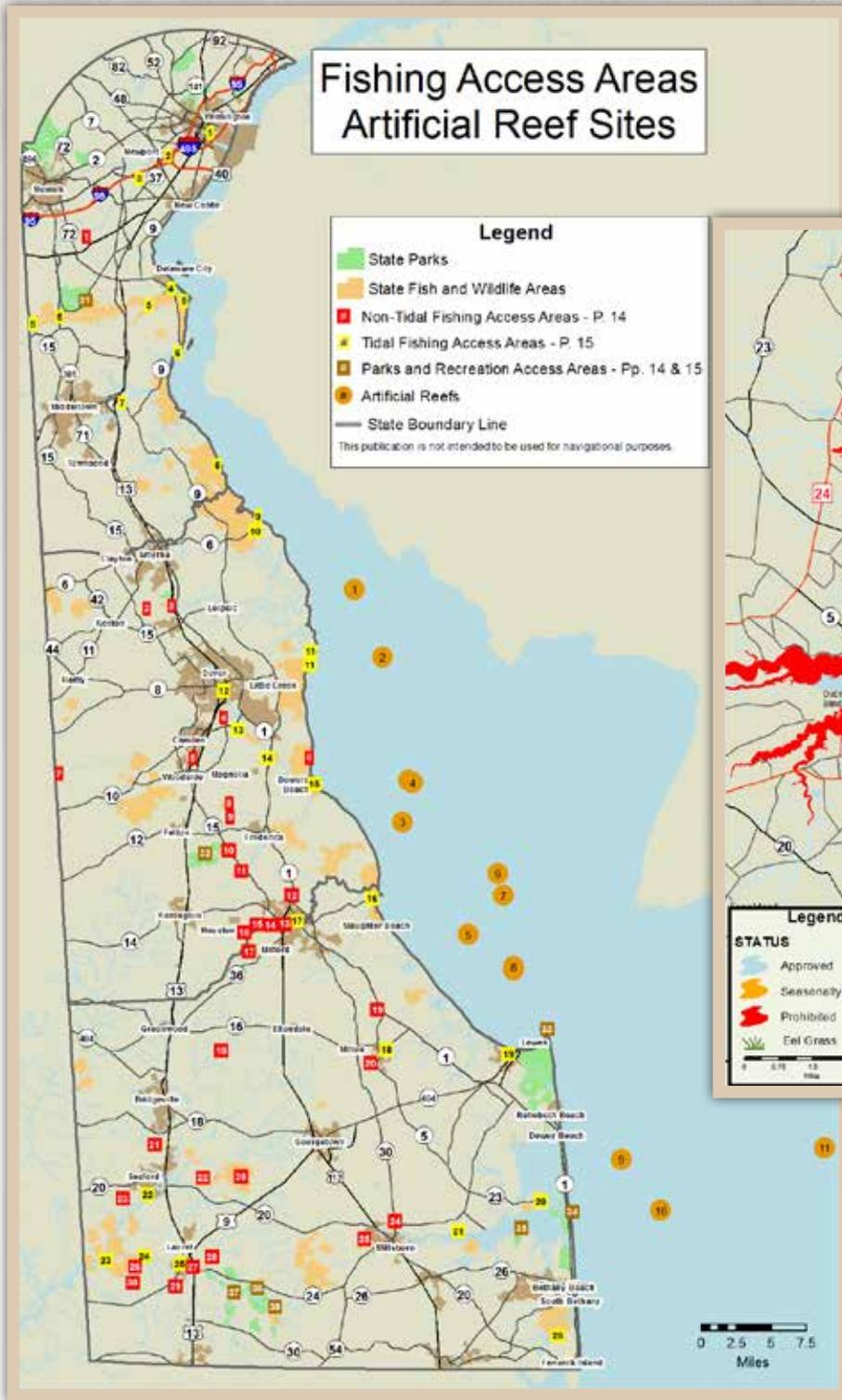
Prevent the transport of nuisance species.  
Clean all recreational equipment.  
[www.ProtectYourWaters.net](http://www.ProtectYourWaters.net)



**Red Swamp Crayfish** (*Procambarus Clarkii*) are an invasive species. They have distinctive red bumps on the claws and often migrate over land during damp weather.

# FISHING & CLAMMING MAPS

## FISHING MAP



## CLAMMING MAP

# GENERAL TIDAL FISHING REGULATIONS

These are some of the regulations that all anglers should be familiar with. For a complete listing refer to the Division's website or request a copy from the Director's Office. See page 5 for license requirements.

## STRIPED BASS SPAWNING SEASON

The spawning season for striped bass in Delaware is considered to begin at 12:01 a.m. on April 1 and continue through midnight on May 31 of each calendar year. It is unlawful for any person to take and retain any striped bass during the spawning season from the Nanticoke River or its tributaries, the Delaware River and its tributaries to the north of a line extending due east beginning at and including the south jetty at the mouth of the C & D Canal, or the C & D Canal or its tributaries. Catch and release only during this season; no harvest is allowed.

## CIRCLE-HOOKS

It is unlawful for any person to fish during the striped bass spawning season on any striped bass spawning ground with natural bait using any hook other than a non-offset circle-hook when said hook measures greater than 3/8 inches as measured from the point of the hook to the shank of the hook.

The Division recommends that circle-hooks always be used when fishing natural baits because of their proven ability to reduce hook and release mortality for striped bass and other fish species. The circle-hook's design usually results in fish being hooked in the mouth, simplifying hook removal and reducing injury to the released fish.

## POSSESSION LIMIT

A recreational angler may take no more than 2 striped bass per day (a period of 24 hours) from the tidal waters of this State at a minimum 28 inches unless otherwise authorized (e.g. spawning season or slot limit).

## STRIPED BASS SLOT LIMIT SEASON

**Area - The striped bass slot limit season only applies to Delaware waters of the the Delaware River, Delaware Bay and their tributaries.** It does not apply to adjacent waters of Pennsylvania or New Jersey, nor does it apply to coastal waters, Indian River Inlet or the Inland Bays.

**Season - July 1 - August 31**

**Size Limit - 20 inches to 26 inches (total length)**

- Any striped bass less than or greater than the slot size must be released during this special season within the specified area. The 28-inch minimum size is in effect during all other months.

**Possession Limit - two (2) per angler**

- Recreational hook-and-line fishermen only.

## AMERICAN SHAD AND HICKORY SHAD

It shall be unlawful for any person to have in possession more than an aggregate of ten (10) American shad and hickory shad. Additionally, it shall be unlawful for any person to take and reduce to possession any American shad or hickory shad from the Nanticoke River or its tributaries.

## RIVER HERRING

Both commercial and recreational river herring (blueback herring and alewife) fisheries are closed to harvest.

No person shall fish with any type of net, within 300 feet of any constructed dam or spillway on a tidal water river, stream, canal, ditch, or tributary located in this state.

### Paid Advertisement

## New electronic lure may catch too many fish; one state bans it.

A bass every seven minutes.

by Mike Butler

**NEWARK, DE-** A new fishing technology that set a record for catching bass in Mexico is now showing its stuff in the U.S. It has out-fished shrimp bait in Washington State and beat top-selling U.S. lures three to one in Florida. The new technology is so effective one state, Wyoming, has banned its use.

The breakthrough is a tiny, battery-powered electrical system that flashes a blood-red light down a lure's tail when its moved in water. Fish think it's an injured prey and strike. Some fishing authorities, like those in Wyoming, think that gives fishermen too much of an advantage.

They may be right. Three fishermen using a flashing lure in Mexico caught 650 large-mouth bass in just 25 hours. That's a bass every seven minutes for each person, and a record for the lake they were fishing. They said the bass struck with such ferocity they hardly lost a strike.

In Florida two professionals fished for four hours from the same boat. One used a flashing-red lure; the other used some top-selling U. S. lures. The new, "bleeding"

lure caught three times as many fish.

Before reporting this, I asked a veteran fisherman in my office for his opinion. Monday morning he charged into my office yelling "I caught six monster fish in an hour with this thing! Where did you get it?"

Then I phoned an ichthyologist (fish expert).

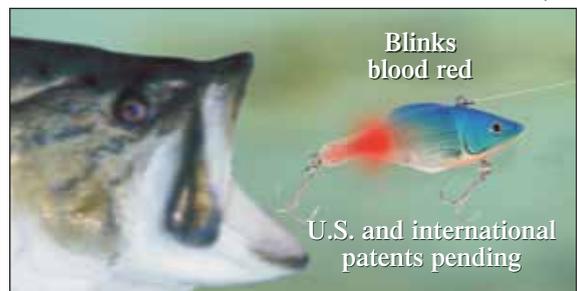
"Predators - lions, sharks," he said, "will always go for the most vulnerable prey. Fish are predators, so if a fish sees a smaller fish bleeding, it knows it's weakened and will strike."

"If a lure could appear to be a live, bleeding fish, a few fishermen could probably empty a lake with it."

I told him three almost did.

### Fishes top, middle and deep

There is a U.S. company that offers a kit of three blinking lures (one each for shallow, middle and deep water) called the Bite Light® Each lure is a different color. They work in fresh or salt water, contain rattle attractants



New Bite Light® lure uses a blinking red light to create appearance of a live, bleeding prey. Triggers strikes.

inside and last 300 hours in the water.

One kit of three Bite Lights® costs \$29.95, two or more kits cost \$25.00 each. Each kit has the same three models, but in different colors: S/h is only \$7.00 no matter how many kits you buy.

To order, go to [www.FishingTechToDay.com](http://www.FishingTechToDay.com) or call 1-800-873-4415 anytime or day and ask for the Bite Light® lure (Item #kbl). Or send your name, address and a check to Scientific Edge LLC (Dept. LL-112), 40 E. Main Street, Suite 1416, Newark, DE 19711.

The company gives your money back, if you don't catch more fish and return your purchase within 30-days.

BL-14H © Scientific Edge LLC 2013 Dept. LL-123

## SUMMER FLOUNDER

It is unlawful for any person to have in possession any part of a summer flounder that measures less than the current minimum size limit between said part's two most distant points unless said person also has in possession the head, backbone, and tail intact from which said part was removed.

## ELECTRIC LIGHTS

It is legal for any person to fish in the tidal waters of this State with the aid of "lights used for illumination for visual purposes".

"Lights used for illumination for visual purposes" shall mean any light that is fixed in position anywhere directly above the hull or deck of a vessel, dock or shore area, or any electric flood light less than 500 watts and fixed in position no less than ten (10) feet directly above the surface of the water. An electric flood light is any electric light that does not have a focused beam.

## COURTESY DOCKS

Crabbing, fishing or swimming from floating courtesy docks at any Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife boat ramp is prohibited.

## ARTIFICIAL REEF PROGRAM



The "Gregory Poole" a 175-foot minesweeper, later used in the Atlantic menhaden fishery, was sunk in 2007 on the DEL-JERSEY-LAND inshore reef site. This site hosts a community of fish including sea bass, ocean pout, hake, flounder, bluefish and tuna.

Delaware has eleven permitted artificial reef sites in Delaware Bay and along the Atlantic Coast. Development of these sites began in 1995 and will continue. The Delaware Reef Program is one part of a comprehensive fisheries management effort and is designed to enhance fisheries habitat, benefit structure-oriented fish, and provide fishing opportunities for anglers.

The site charts in the free reef guide show where reef materials have been deployed since 1995. The reef program uses DGPS (Differential Global Positioning System) to accurately place materials on site. Locations (latitude - longitude) noted for each site indicate the position of deployments of reef material from an anchored barge. In the case of large, concentrated reef deployments, a latitude or longitude range, may be given such as: N 39 15.377'-402'. This indicates material occurs between 39 degrees, 15.377 to 15.402 minutes north latitude. Due to variability between DGPS receivers, slight variations in readings may occur. It is suggested you use your GPS and a good fathometer to locate reef structure, then note the coordinates on your own GPS. You can view the reef guide on-line or contact the Fisheries Little Creek field office for a copy (302) 735-2960.



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# SHARKS, CLAMS, CONCHS AND OYSTERS

Sharks are managed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the regulations are complex. For more detailed information contact the NMFS or visit [www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/). State regulations are subject to any changes in federal regulations. Please consult [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) for the latest changes in state regulations. See page 13 for more information on shark seasons, sizes, and daily limits.

## COMMON DELAWARE SHARKS

The sand tiger, sandbar, smooth dogfish (or smoothhound) and spiny dogfish are the most commonly caught shark species in Delaware. Sandbar and sand tiger sharks are of special significance to the Delaware Estuary and its anglers. Delaware Bay is an important "pupping area" and nursery for sand tiger sharks, and they are commonly hooked. Due to their low reproductive rate and overfishing, both species are protected and **none may be retained**. No hook and line fisherman may remove from the water any sandbar shark, or any other prohibited species of shark. In addition, any sandbar shark or other prohibited species of shark must be immediately released in a manner that will ensure the maximum probability of survival.

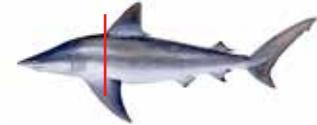
For more information on other common Delaware sharks and handling, please visit [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov).



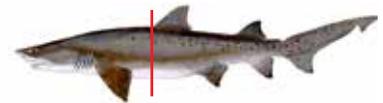
**Smooth dogfish (Smoothhound)** - no recreational limit - to 5 feet in length; body gray to brown with yellowish to white underside; teeth are pavement like and noncutting; very common in warmer months (Apr. - Oct.).



**Spiny dogfish** - no recreational limit - to 5 feet in length; easily identified by thorny spine located on leading edge of dorsal fins; teeth small and not prominent; common in the cooler weather months (Oct. - Apr.).



**Sandbar - prohibited species** - to 7 feet in length; body bluish to brownish gray fading to white underside; front dorsal fin sits high and aligns with rear attachment point of pectoral fin (see red reference line); dorsal fins different size and shape; upper teeth triangular and serrated; lower teeth narrow and finely serrated.



**Sand Tiger - prohibited species** - to 10.5 feet in length; body gray-brown to tan with dark splotches; front dorsal fin well behind pectoral fin (see red reference line); dorsal fins nearly equal in size; prominent long curved teeth.

## CLAMMING

### METHODS OF TAKE AND LIMITS

A fishing license is required to harvest clams in waters of the State of Delaware. See page 5 for details.

It is unlawful for any person to attempt to take, catch, kill or reduce to possession any hard clams with a device other than a hand-held rake with a head no wider than fourteen (14) inches measured perpendicular to the tines and a straight handle not in excess of seven (7) feet in length.

It is unlawful to harvest hard clams from one-half hour after sunset through one-half hour before sunrise.

It is unlawful for any resident to harvest more than one hundred (100) clams per day unless otherwise permitted to do so by license or permit.

It is unlawful for any non-resident to harvest more than fifty (50) hard clams per day

unless otherwise permitted to do so by license or permit.

No shellfish harvesting (excluding crabs) is allowed in the **Prohibited Areas** marked on the map on page 17 or any tidal river, stream, or impoundment of the state. This includes all non-tidal and impounded water as well. Shellfish harvesting is allowed from December 1 through April 15 in the **Seasonally Approved Areas**. This is your protection against contracting shellfish-borne diseases. This is also the law. All boundaries may be marked with signs and or buoys saying "No Shellfish Harvesting" or "Prohibited Shellfish Area". Questions regarding these closures should be directed to the Watershed Assessment Section Shellfish and Recreational Waters Programs 302-739-9939. Clamming is prohibited in eel grass beds marked with white PVC pipes and signs.

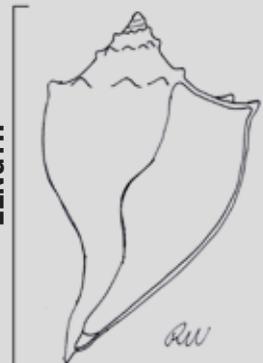
## CONCHS

Conch (channeled and knobbed whelk) may only be taken using conch pots with at least one escape vent measuring at least 5 inches x 10 inches in the top or parlor section. The recreational harvest of conch by any other method is prohibited. Recreational conch potters may not use, place, set or tend more than two conch pots. The person claiming to own the pots must be the one to set and tend them. These pots must be marked with all white buoys with the owner's full name and permanent mailing address inscribed either on the buoy or on a waterproof tag attached to the buoy. All conch pots must be tended at least once every 72 hours. Conch must measure at least 6 inches along the axis or have a minimum diameter at the whorl of 3.5 (3 1/2) inches for knobbed whelk or 3.125 (3 1/8) inches for channeled whelk.

### MEASURING CONCH

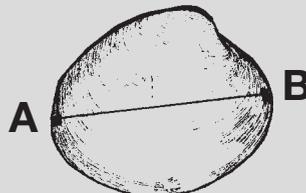
#### WHORL DIAMETER

LENGTH



### Minimum Hard Clam Size

The minimum size for a hard clam is 1 1/2 inches from point A to point B.



1 1/2 INCHES

## OYSTERS

### RECREATIONAL HARVEST PROHIBITED

It is unlawful to recreationally harvest oysters in Delaware. This prohibition protects vulnerable oyster populations and protects you against contracting a shellfish-borne disease.

# BLUE CRABS

## BLUE CRABS

A fishing license is required to crab in all waters of the State of Delaware.

The blue crab is common in all the tidal waters of Delaware. It is a popular recreational resource and tops the list of the State's economically important marine fish and shellfish.

Blue crabs grow very quickly and reach maturity in 12 to 18 months. Most do not live beyond two years under current exploitation levels.

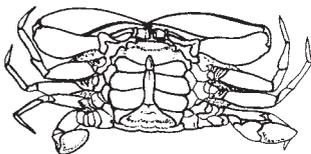
In order to grow, a blue crab must shed its shell and form a new shell. This process is repeated up to 18 times to attain maximum length. It is legal to take crabs at three stages, but to get the most yield in weight out of a crab, they should reach a minimum length before being harvested. This is measured from point to point of the top shell.

The minimum size for male blue crab is 5 inches. Mature females (sooks) are identified by the rounded apron on their under side. Once this

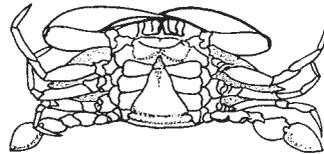
stage of development is achieved, females stop growing. Therefore, **female blue crabs with a U-shaped apron may be retained at any size.** Females bearing eggs, commonly known as sponge crabs, may not be taken and should be returned to the water immediately.

Recreational crabbers may not use, place, set or tend more than two pots. The person claiming to own the pots must be the one to set and tend them. These pots must be marked with all white buoys with the owner's full name and permanent mailing address inscribed either on the buoy or on a waterproof tag attached to the buoy. All crab pots must be tended at least once every 72 hours. All crab pots must be removed from the water between December 1 and February 28. Recreational crabbers may use a trot line (no length limit) and any number of hand lines or traps. The recreational daily limit is one bushel per person.

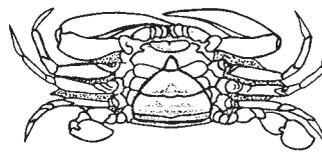
**A turtle by-catch reduction device is required to be attached in each funnel entrance of a recreational crab pot to reduce the possibility of diamondback terrapins entering and drowning. A by-catch reduction device is a rigid rectangular frame of plastic or metal that measures 1.75 inches x 4.75 inches and is available at local tackle shops, or can be hand-made from heavy (>11 gauge) wire or other suitable material.**



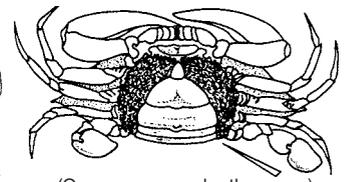
**Jimmy**  
Mature Male



**She-crab**  
Immature Female



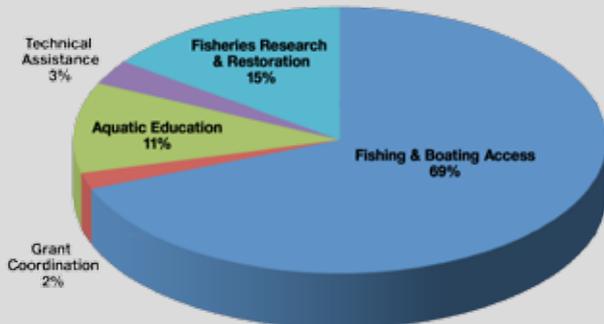
**Sook**  
Mature Female



(Orange eggs under the apron)

**Sponge Crab**  
Female with Eggs

## FISHING DOLLARS AT WORK



### Where Do Your Fishing License Dollars Go?

Your license and trout stamp purchases allow the Division to secure additional federal Sport Fish Restoration funds used for fisheries research, maintenance and construction of fishing areas, and aquatic education. Please note that anglers exempted from purchasing a fishing license may voluntarily purchase a license and/or trout stamp to support these activities. The Division is grateful to anglers that contribute to our mission in this way. For more information, please visit us at [www.fw.delaware.gov/fisheries](http://www.fw.delaware.gov/fisheries).

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# SPORT FISHING TOURNAMENT

## TOURNAMENT RULES

1. The Sport Fishing Tournament is open to the public. There is no entry fee. Charter boat captains are eligible. Weighmasters are eligible to enter, provided their fish are weighed in at a weighing station other than their own.
2. All fish except those caught beyond the three-mile limit in the Atlantic Ocean entered in the Tournament must be caught within the boundaries of the State of Delaware. Any fish caught outside the three-mile territorial sea must be landed in a vessel leaving from a Delaware port and returning to a Delaware port.
3. All fish entered in the tournament must be weighed at an official Delaware Sport Fishing Tournament Weigh Station.
4. All fish entered in the tournament must be caught in a sporting manner with hook and line. No other person may touch the rod or line until the fish is brought within the grasp of the mate.
5. All scales used to weigh in fish must be certified yearly by the Delaware Division of Weights and Measures (Department of Agriculture 739-4811).
6. All fish entered in the tournament must meet the minimum weight requirement as set up for this year's tournament.
7. No smallmouth bass will be recognized from Kent or Sussex Counties unless Division of Fish and Wildlife qualified personnel examine and approve the catch.
8. **A fish will not be recognized as a state record unless qualified personnel from the Division of Fish and Wildlife approve the catch.** In case no Division personnel are available at the time of the weigh-in, the angler must save the entire fish for examination and approval at the earliest convenient time for the Division.
9. In the case of a tie for the largest fish of the year or a new state record, both fish will be recognized.
10. To replace a record for a fish weighing less than 25 pounds, the replacement must weigh at least 2 ounces more than the existing record. To replace a record for a fish weighing 25 pounds or more, the replacement must weigh at least one-half of 1 percent more than the existing record. Example: at 100 pounds the additional weight required would be 8 ounces. Any catch that exceeds the existing record by less than the amount required to defeat the record will be considered a tie.
11. The Tournament Director reserves the right to disqualify any entry.
12. All entry forms must be filled out completely and in a legible manner by the weighmaster. The signed forms should be mailed in **by the angler**.
13. The tournament runs from January 1 - December 31. No entry forms for the previous tournament year will be accepted after 4:30 p.m. January 31.
14. Only one citation per species of fish will be issued to any individual during the tournament year. In the event an individual catches a larger fish than the one for which he originally was issued a citation, a new citation will be issued for the **larger** fish if the individual returns the older citation.
15. Only one saltwater award and one freshwater award will be issued to any one individual during the tournament year.
16. Special citations will be issued upon approval of the Tournament Director in the case of unusual catches or extenuating circumstances. If the weigh station feels the catch is rare or unusual, an entry form should be submitted for approval. All decisions by the Director on unusual species will be final.
17. Citations will be awarded for released white or blue marlin. Fill out the standard entry form except for length, weight, and girth and include a signature and telephone number of a witness to the catch other than the angler and captain. Any marlin kept for taxidermy also will be eligible for Tournament entry provided a taxidermist receipt is enclosed with the entry form. Marlin retained for any purpose other than mounting will not be eligible for entry in the Tournament.
18. The Tournament Director reserves the right to disqualify any weigh station if the Tournament rules are not observed.
19. Hybrid striped bass will only be recognized for entry when caught in non-tidal water.
20. The State of Delaware assumes no responsibility in the certification of a catch for consideration by the International Game Fish Association or any record keeping body other than the Delaware Sportfishing Tournament. If the angler wishes to qualify his/her catch for consideration in some other tournament, it is the responsibility of the angler to insure that his catch and weigh-in meets the appropriate criteria. The Delaware Sportfishing Tournament makes no distinction based on line classes or sex of the angler or fly versus conventional fishing gear.
21. Call (302) 735-2960 for tournament information.

## LIVE RELEASE AWARDS

In order to promote conservation ethics among Delaware anglers, the Division of Fish and Wildlife is providing recognition patches to anglers who catch and release live eligible species that exceed the minimum lengths specified. To qualify, an angler must make the catch in Delaware waters or off Delaware's Atlantic coast line. The eligible species must be measured from the tip of the jaw to the tip of the tail (straight line measurement with mouth closed) and this measurement must be verified by a witness who signs the entry form. The fish so measured must be released immediately. Fish kept either alive or dead and brought to a weigh station will be weighed for entry in the Sport Fishing Tournament using certified scales and will not be eligible for a Live Release Award. Only those fish released alive immediately shall be eligible for a Live Release Award. Billfish released alive are eligible for either the Live Release Award or the Sport Fishing Tournament Award, whichever one the angler chooses.

No angler will be issued more than one live release freshwater award and one live release saltwater award per year, although he or she may apply for and receive one of the live release citations for each eligible species.

Applications for Live Release Awards are available on-line or may be picked up at any Sport Fishing Tournament Weigh Station and must be mailed to the Division of Fish and Wildlife within 30 days after the catch. The entry form for live releases must include both the angler's signature and the signature of a witness to the actual measurement and live release of the fish. No fish entered for a Live Release Award will be eligible for consideration as a State record fish. All potential State record fish must be weighed at a certified Weigh Station.



J. Jacobini

# SPORT FISHING TOURNAMENT

## MINIMUM WEIGHTS AND LENGTHS

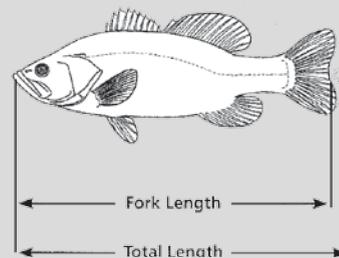
FRESHWATER FISHES		
SPECIES	WEIGHT (LBS.)	LENGTH* (INCHES)
Largemouth bass	5	20
Smallmouth bass	2 <sup>1</sup>	17
Striped bass	30	40
Striped bass hybrid <sup>2</sup>	5	22
Bluegill	1	10
Carp	15	29
Catfish	6	25
Crappie	1	12
White perch	1	12
Yellow perch	1	12
Chain pickerel	4	24
American shad	5	23
Trout	2	16
Redear sunfish	1	10
SALTWATER FISHES		
False albacore	12	26
True albacore	30	32
Black sea bass	3	17
Striped bass	30	40
Bluefish	14	33
Atlantic croaker	3	19
Dolphinfish	15	41
Black drum	50	45
Red drum	do not qualify	45
Flounder	7	25
Kingfish	1	13
Atlantic mackerel	2	17
King mackerel	10	36
Spanish mackerel	5	22
Blue marlin	Any	Any
White marlin	Any	Any
Scup (porgy)	2	14
Shark (excl. Mako)	100	66
Mako shark	100	66
Sheepshead	8	22
Swordfish	Any	Any
Tautog	7	25
Blueline tilefish	10	28
Golden tilefish	35	40
Gray triggerfish	5	20
Yellowfin or bigeye tuna	70	48
Bluefin tuna	100	60
Wahoo	20	50
Weakfish (Sea trout)	3	20

\* For Live release award only  
 1 - Must be 17 inches or longer  
 2 - Must be taken from non-tidal waters

## MEASURING YOUR CATCH

Place the fish on a measuring board or stick with the tip of the jaw or snout (the mouth closed) at the end of the instrument. Hold the head down with one hand to keep the fish in place, pinch the upper and lower lobes of the tail together while swiping the tail back and forth across the board. Note the measurement of the longest part of the tail\*; that is the "total length". Keep in mind that fish which barely make the minimum length may shrink after being on ice for an hour or more. Sometimes it is possible to get an accurate measurement while the fish is still in the landing net.

**\*When measuring black sea bass do not include the long caudal fin filament in your measurement of total length.**



Maryland DNR

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## BE ON THE LOOKOUT

Have You Seen a Sturgeon Lately?



If you find a dead sturgeon please report it immediately by calling: **302-735-8650**.

Don't forget to include an exact location and contact information in your message.

# STATE RECORD HOLDERS

See page 22 for more information on the Delaware Sport Fishing Tournament

SPECIES	WEIGHT	ANGLER	YEAR
<b>SALTWATER</b>			
<b>False albacore</b>	20 lbs.	Christian Anderson	2008
<b>True albacore</b>	80 lbs.	David Francella	1987
<b>Black sea bass</b>	7 lbs. 6 ozs.	Steve Samluk	1988
<b>Striped bass</b>	52 lbs.	Benjamin Smith	2012
<b>Bluefish</b>	21 lbs. 15 ozs.	Bill Thoroughgood	1980
<b>Cod</b>	44 lbs.	John Osborne	1975
<b>Atlantic croaker</b>	5 lbs. 3 ozs.	Catherine Simpson	1980
<b>Dolphinfish</b>	52 lbs. 15 ozs.	Charles Ciociola	2003
<b>Black drum</b>	115 lbs.	Kenneth Smith	1978
<b>Red drum</b>	75 lbs.	James Vandetti	1976
<b>Flounder</b>	17 lbs. 15 ozs.	William Kendall	1974
<b>Kingfish</b>	4 lbs.	Billy Hastings	1973
<b>Atlantic mackerel</b>	3 lbs. 5 ozs.	Ricky Yakimowicz	1985
<b>King mackerel</b>	48 lbs. 9 ozs.	Gordon Harris	1992
<b>Spanish mackerel</b>	6 lbs. 4 ozs.	Eric Ludwig	2000
<b>Blue marlin</b>	820 lbs.	Bruce King	1986
<b>White marlin</b>	120 lbs.	William Garner Jr.	1972
<b>Scup</b>	5 lbs. 5 ozs.	Herman Schmidt	1979
<b>Shark</b>	825 lbs.	Brent Thomas	1981
<b>Mako shark</b>	975 lbs.	Thomas Barnes	2000
<b>Sheepshead</b>	15 lbs. 11 ozs.	Christopher H. Wentz	2012
<b>Swordfish</b>	358 lbs.	Kurt Lorenz	2013
<b>Tautog</b>	21 lbs. 4 ozs.	Glenn Cave	2005
<b>Gray triggerfish</b>	6 lbs. 5 ozs.	Buddy J. Masten	2012
<b>Tuna</b>	873 lbs.	Dan Dillon	2005
<b>Wahoo</b>	98 lbs.	Jeff Murtoff	2003
<b>Weakfish</b>	19 lbs. 2 ozs.	William Thomas	1989

SPECIES	WEIGHT	ANGLER	YEAR
<b>FRESHWATER</b>			
<b>Largemouth bass</b>	10 lbs. 10 ozs.	James D. Hitchens	2012
<b>Smallmouth bass</b>	4 lbs. 15.5 ozs.	Jerry Proffitt	1989
<b>Striped bass hyb.</b>	13 lbs. 13 ozs.	Earl Blevins	1990
<b>Bluegill</b>	2 lbs. 10 ozs.	Arnold Harmon	1998
<b>Carp</b>	45 lbs.	Ronald Burnett	1976
<b>Catfish</b>	23 lbs. 6 ozs.	William Ridgley	1992
<b>Crappie</b>	4 lbs. 9 ozs.	Marvin Billips	1976
<b>Tiger musky</b>	15 lbs. 2 ozs.	Richard Harris	1991
<b>White perch</b>	2 lbs. 9 ozs.	Wayne Hastings	1997
<b>Yellow perch</b>	2 lbs. 11ozs.	Marvin Kessinger	1976
<b>Chain pickerel</b>	7 lbs. 3 ozs.	Earl Messick	1972
<b>American shad</b>	6 lbs. 12 ozs.	Bayard Conaway	1972
<b>Trout</b>	11 lbs. 10 ozs.	Edwin Wallace	1997
<b>Walleye</b>	6 lbs. 14 ozs.	Nesbit Copenhaver	1995
<b>Redear sunfish</b>	3 lbs. 1 ozs.	Marty Messick	1998

## CONSERVATION CORNER

The Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife is working to restore the shad population by increasing the numbers of American shad in the Nanticoke River and its major tributaries. Division biologists collect native Nanticoke river shad in the early spring. The fish are taken to Delaware's Nanticoke hatchery where they spawn in a large tank. The eggs are collected and incubated within the protection of the hatching jars. Upon hatching, the young fry are raised for three days in the hatchery before they are released into the river and its tributaries. The culturing provides a "jump start" for a struggling population by protecting the eggs and early juvenile stage fry which frequently experience high rates predation in the wild. This hatchery effort is a great example of fisheries conservation to help preserve a species for future generations.



# WEIGH STATIONS AND/OR BOAT RAMP CERTIFICATE SALES

All motor boats launched from Division of Fish and Wildlife-administered tidal access areas (page 15) must be registered in Delaware or have a valid ramp certificate (\$35) from DNREC or its authorized agents.

AUTHORIZED OUTLET/ WEIGH STATION	CITY	PHONE (302)	WEIGH STATION	BOAT RAMP CERTIFICATE
<b>NEW CASTLE COUNTY</b>				
Joseph Janvier	Middletown	836-9545	yes	no
Shooters Supply	New Castle	328-6242	yes	no
Delaware Bass Stalkers	Newark	737-2691	yes	no
Eastern Marine	Newark	737-6603	yes	yes
Capt. Bones Bait, Tackle & Seafood	Odessa	378-4200	yes	no
Rudy's Outboard Service	Wilmington	999-8735	no	yes
<b>KENT COUNTY</b>				
Donovan's Dock	Bowers Beach	335-3500	yes	yes
Sonny's Bait & Tackle	Bowers Beach	335-2990	yes	yes
Smith's Bait Shop	Leipsic	744-9140	yes	yes
Division of Fish & Wildlife	Dover	739-9916	no	yes
Carlisle's Marine	Smyrna	389-0100	no	yes
<b>SUSSEX COUNTY</b>				
Hook'em & Cook'em	Bethany	539-6243	yes	no
Vines Creek Marina	Dagsboro	732-6043	yes	no
Indian River Outfitter	Dagsboro	732-3210	yes	no
Rehoboth Bay Marina	Dewey Beach	226-2012	yes	no
Fenwick Tackle	Fenwick	539-7766	yes	no
Sam's Fishing Tackle	Greenwood	424-0197	yes	no
Williamsville Country Store	Houston	422-4455	yes	no
Hook'em & Cook'em	Indian River	226-8220	yes	yes
A&R Bait & Tackle	Lewes	645-6111	yes	no
Fisherman's Wharf	Lewes	645-8862	yes	no
Henlopen Bait & Tackle	Lewes	645-8106	yes	yes
Lewes Harbour Marina	Lewes	645-6227	yes	yes
Steamboat Landing	Lewes	645-6500	yes	no
Bayroad Discount Bait & Tackle	Lewes	945-1995	yes	no
Bills Sport Shop	Lewes	645-7654	yes	yes
Cedar Creek General Store	Lincoln	424-4568	yes	no
Rick's Bait & Tackle	Longneck	945-9245	yes	no
Cedar Creek Marina	Milford	422-2040	yes	no
Cedar Creek Bait & Tackle	Milford	422-4227	yes	yes
Hi-Way Bait & Tackle	Milford	335-5087	yes	yes
Taylor Marine	Milford	422-9177	yes	no
Bayside Marina	Millsboro	945-3440	no	yes
PotNet Seaside Bait & Tackle	Millsboro	945-7798	yes	no
Massey's Landing	Millsboro	945-2544	yes	no
Short's Marine	Millsboro	945-1200	no	yes
Dan's Tackle Box	Milton	684-3093	yes	no
Bob's Marine Service	Ocean View	539-3711	no	yes
Indian River Marina	Rehoboth	227-3071	yes	yes
Old Inlet Bait & Tackle Inc.	Rehoboth	227-7974	yes	no
CH McKinney's	Rehoboth	227-8800	no	yes
Taylor'd Tackle Shop	Seaford	629-9017	yes	no
Walkers Marine	Seaford	629-8666	no	yes
Capt. Mac's Lighthouse Bait & Tackle	Selbyville	436-2445	yes	no
Route 113 Boat Sales	Selbyville	436-1737	no	yes
Adams Wharf	Slaughter Beach	422-8940	yes	no

# FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

WATERBODY	SPECIES	CONTAMINANT OF CONCERN	GEOGRAPHICAL EXTENT	MEALS/YR (8-OUNCE SERVING)
<b>All Waters not listed below</b>	All Species not listed below	All	All Areas not listed	52
<b>Delaware River</b>	All Finfish	A, B, D	Delaware State Line to the C&D Canal	1*
<b>Lower Delaware River and Delaware Bay</b>	Weakfish-all sizes;	A	Chesapeake & Delaware Canal to the Mouth of the Delaware Bay	12
	Bluefish-14 inches or less	A		12
	Striped Bass	A	Chesapeake & Delaware Canal to the Mouth of the Delaware Bay	2*
	White Perch, American Eel, White Catfish, Channel Catfish, Bluefish-greater than 14 inches	A		1*
<b>Delaware Atlantic Coastal Waters including Delaware Inland Bays</b>	Bluefish-14 inches or less	A	Coastal Delaware from Mouth of the Delaware Bay Southward to MD/DE Line	12
	Bluefish-greater than 14 inches	A, C	Coastal Delaware from Mouth of the Delaware Bay Southward to MD/DE Line	1*
<b>Tidal Shellpot Creek</b>	All Finfish	A	Governor Printz Blvd. to the Delaware River	0
<b>Non-tidal Shellpot Creek</b>	All Finfish	E	Upstream of Governor Printz Blvd.	1
<b>Army Creek and Pond</b>	All Finfish	A, B, G	Entire Creek and Pond	2
<b>Red Lion Creek</b>	All Finfish	A, B	Route 13 to the Delaware River	1
<b>Chesapeake &amp; Delaware Canal</b>	All Finfish	A, E, F, H	Entire Canal in Delaware	0
<b>Appoquinimink River</b>	All Finfish	A, B	Tidal Portions	1
<b>Drawyers Creek</b>	All Finfish	A, F	Tidal Portions	1
<b>Silver Lake Middletown</b>	All Finfish	A, E, F, B	Entire Lake	1
<b>Waples Pond</b>	All Finfish	C	Entire Pond	12
<b>Prime Hook Creek</b>	All Finfish	C	Entire Creek	12
<b>Slaughter Creek</b>	All Finfish	A,G	Entire Creek	6
<b>Saint Jones River</b>	All Finfish	A, B, C	River Mouth to Silver Lake Dam	2
<b>Moores Lake</b>	All Finfish	A, F	Entire Pond	2
<b>Silver Lake Dover</b>	All Finfish	A, B, C	Entire Pond	2
<b>Wyoming Mill Pond</b>	All Finfish	A, B, F	Entire Pond	2
<b>Tidal Brandywine River</b>	All Finfish	A	River Mouth to Baynard Blvd	0
<b>Non-tidal Brandywine River</b>	All Finfish	A, B	Baynard Blvd. to Pennsylvania Line	6
<b>Tidal Christina River</b>	All Finfish	A, E	River Mouth to Smalley's Dam	0
<b>Non-tidal Christina River</b>	All Finfish	A, E, H	Smalley's Dam to DE/MD Line	6
<b>Tidal White Clay Creek</b>	All Finfish	A	River Mouth to Route 4	0
<b>Non-tidal White Clay Creek</b>	All Finfish	A	Route 4 to DE/PA Line	12
<b>Red Clay Creek</b>	All Finfish	A, B, D	State Line to Stanton	6
<b>Little Mill Creek</b>	All Finfish	A	Creek Mouth to Kirkwood Highway	0
<b>Christina Creek</b>	Stocked Trout	A, E	Rittenhouse Park to DE/MD Line	6
<b>Designated Trout Streams &amp; Ponds other than Christina Creek</b>	Stocked Trout	A	Designated Trout Streams are listed on page 10	12

**Notes:**

\* Women of childbearing age and children should not consume any amount of these fish.

For more information on the specific contaminant(s) of concern for each waterbody listed, consult the Division's website ([www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov)) or contact DNREC at (302) 739-9902, or the Division of Public Health at (302) 744-4546.

**Contaminants of concern:**

A) PCBs, B) Dioxin, C) Mercury, D) Chlorinated pesticides, E) Dieldrin, F) DDT, G) Furan, and H) Chlordane.

# FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

Fishing is an important activity in Delaware's inland and coastal waters. Among the benefits provided by fishing are quality recreational opportunities, direct and indirect input to the local economy, food for recreational anglers, and food for the commercial marketplace. Fish are a good source of readily digestible protein. They are low in fat and sodium, and the unique types of fats found in fish are believed to provide cardiovascular benefits.

Despite the general benefits of fishing and fish consumption, there are also health risks associated with consuming some locally caught fish. Certain toxic chemicals such as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and mercury persist

in the environment and accumulate in fish. When you eat the fish, you also ingest these chemicals. In cases where the health risk is elevated to recreational anglers and their families, the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), in cooperation with the Department of Health and Social Services' Division of Public Health (DPH), issue fish consumption advisories to inform the public of the situation. The most recent fish consumption advisories for Delaware waters are shown on the accompanying table. These advisories are intended to protect public health and hence are conservative.

Although the list of waters and fish spe-

cies under advisory is extensive, monitoring shows that contaminant concentrations in the fish are slowly improving over time in many cases. This is the result of steady progress in cleaning up the sources of the contamination along with natural processes. DNREC and DPH will continue to monitor contaminant levels in fish over time and issue new or revised fish consumption advisories as appropriate.

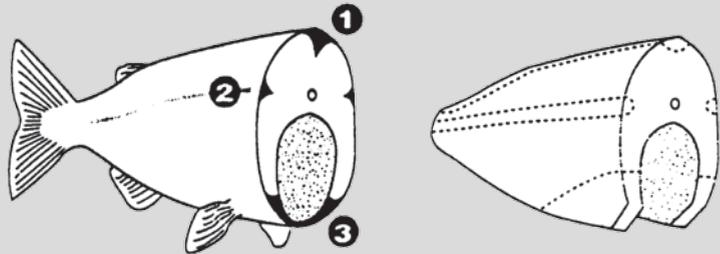
For more information concerning health advisories for Delaware waters, go on-line or contact the Division of Public Health at (302) 744-4546. For more information on balancing health risks and health benefits of consuming seafood, visit <http://seafoodhealthfacts.org>.

## CUTTING THE FAT

Toxic chemicals tend to concentrate in the fatty tissue found in the:

- 1) dorsal area.
- 2) lateral line.
- 3) belly flaps.

When cleaning fish, always skin it and trim away fatty areas shown by the dotted line.



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# FISHING PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

The Division of Fish and Wildlife held its third annual Fishing Photo Contest in 2013. The contest theme was, "Conservationists Enjoying the Outdoors". Entry photos had to be taken in Delaware and depict anglers participating in fishing activities.

Division of Fish and Wildlife Director David Savekis and local photographers Tony Pratt and Freda Barrett, both DNREC employees, served as judges and reviewed the 45 entries received.

First place was awarded to "Emily's First Bass", taken on a beautiful day at Wagamons Pond by 15-year-old Christopher Halsey of Dover. Christopher took the photo of his sister, 11-year-old Emily Halsey, and her uncle, Jason Gary, with Emily's first largemouth bass.

Second place was awarded to "On the Rocks". The photograph, taken by Daniel Halsey, shows his children Emily and Christopher Halsey enjoying a day fishing at the C&D Canal.

Three honorable mention photographs were also designated from the entries submitted.

## 1st Place

Awarded to Christopher Halsey of Dover for this photograph of his sister Emily showing off her first largemouth bass with her uncle, Jason Gary.



## 2nd Place

Awarded to Daniel Halsey of Dover for this photograph of his daughter, Emily, and son, Christopher, enjoying a day fishing at the C&D Canal.



In addition, three honorable mentions were selected and are presented here:



**Angelica Tsai**  
Photo by Jack Tsai



**Atticus Melvin**  
Photo by Joey Melvin



**Christopher Halsey**  
Photo by Tammy Halsey

**Congratulations to all the winners!**

For information about future contests, visit [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov).



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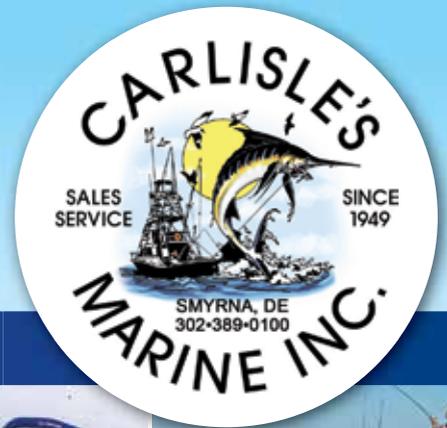
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