MARYLAND GUIDE TO
FISHING AND CRABBING
2019

STATE RECORDS
page 47

Also inside...
• License Information
• Seasons, Sizes and Limits
• Fish Identification
• Public Lakes and Ponds
• Tidal/Nontidal dividing lines
• Oysters and Clams

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LICENSE FREE FISHING DAYS!
In Maryland, anyone may fish without a recreational
fishing license on June 2, June 9 and July 4, 2019.
All other fishing regulations apply.

Ava Chlebnikow and her first keeper rockfish.
This publication is intended as a guide only. Rules are subject to change. It is the angler’s responsibility to know and abide by all rules. For statutes see the Natural Resources Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. For regulations see the Code of Maryland Regulations, Title 08. Maryland statutes and regulations can be found at the following web sites:

• Statutes:
  lexisnexis.com/hottopics/md.code/

• Regulations:
  dsd.state.md.us/COMAR/ComarHome.html

STAY CONNECTED!

• Follow the Department of Natural Resources:
  • Twitter— twitter.com/MDDNRFISH
  • Facebook—facebook.com/MarylandDNRFisheries/
  • Share your fishing story on the Angler’s Log— dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/recreational/anglers_log.aspx

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Shimano Tekota Levelwind Reels have been designed with Coreprotect water resistance for the ultimate increase in corrosion resistance. These reels are a trollers dream and the perfect cross-over reel for both freshwater and saltwater species, from walleye to tuna.

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Dear Anglers,

Maryland is known for its great fishing and rich waterways, featuring brackish, fresh and salt waters — from Deep Creek Lake, to the beaches of the Eastern Shore, to piers near Baltimore or Cambridge. Even better, no location is more than three or four hours from your front door. And the fish are just as diverse: striped bass, white perch, walleye, largemouth bass and three species of trout await your line and lure. Recreational fishing benefits not only anglers like you, but also aids our conservation and management efforts, removing invasive species like snakeheads from Maryland waters. Indeed, Maryland anglers have long been guardians of our state’s aquatic resources. Together, we work to preserve and restore the health of our local waterways while also enjoying all that Maryland has to offer.

In addition to helping the environment, the sport also encourages active outdoor recreation and has a positive impact on the economy. Whether this is your first year fishing or your fiftieth, we’d like to thank you for buying a fishing license. It might seem like a simple act, but it’s vital to our conservation efforts. The revenue from your fishing license and trout stamp allows us to manage and maintain the fishing experience in all corners of our state for this generation and the next.

Thank you for your support. Best wishes for a memorable year of fishing in Maryland.

Sincerely,

Mark Belton
Secretary of Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Purchase your Maryland fishing license or register your boat online, and, while there make a contribution to the Fund that supports fish and wildlife habitat, clean water, wetlands restoration, and student outdoor education.

For more information visit www.cbtrust.org/mdoutdoors
WHAT'S NEW / DID YOU KNOW?

New State Records:
• White Catfish (Tidal Chesapeake) 9.61 lbs, Elk River/Turkey Pt. 6/3/2018
  Angler: Brian Dvorak
• Warmouth (Nontidal Freshwater) 0.67 lb./10.72 oz, Gilbert Run Lake 6/11/2018
  Angler: Dezi Collins
• Snakehead (Invasive) 19.90 lbs, Indian Head 5/24/2018
  Angler: Andrew D. Fox
• Longnose gar 17.9 lbs, 1/23/2019
  Angler: David Confair

Did you know that you no longer need to have a signed paper copy of your license with you?

You can now show an officer an electronic copy of your license. Use the pdf that is generated by the licensing system on your phone or other electronic device. You still need to carry a photo ID with you.

NEW REGULATIONS INVOLVING HOOKS, BAIT AND STRIPED BASS

A regulation involving hooks, bait and striped bass is in effect May 16 through Dec. 15, 2019 in Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries.

1. Anglers must use non-offset circle hooks when live-lining or chumming;
2. Anglers must use non-offset circle hooks or "J" hooks when using fish, crabs or worms as bait or when using processed baits while not live-lining or chumming (treble hooks are prohibited); and
3. The minimum size for striped bass is 19 inches.

Note: The department advises that anglers use circle hooks of 8/0 or larger, to reduce the chance of deep-hooking.

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TO REPORT A FISH KILL
800-285-8195 or 877-224-7229

MARYLAND WILDLIFE CRIMESTOPPERS
The Maryland Natural Resources Police has partnered with Maryland Wildlife Crimestoppers to prevent poaching of our fish and wildlife resources. You can report poaching and wildlife crime while remaining anonymous and be eligible for a cash reward. You can call or text Maryland Wildlife Crimestoppers at 1-443-433-4112 or email mwc.dnr@maryland.gov. You can also report violations from your phone using the Maryland DNR App!
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FISHING LICENSES, STAMPS AND SALTWATER ANGLER REGISTRATION

Fishing Licenses and Fees

Fishing licenses, stamps and registrations are valid for 365 days from the date of purchase, unless otherwise specified.

Resident Nontidal Sport Fishing License ................................................................. $20.50
Resident 7-Day Nontidal Sport Fishing License ..................................................... $7.50
Resident Trout Stamp .............................................................................................. $5
Resident Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Fishing License ............................... $15
Resident 7-Day Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Fishing License ................. $6
Resident Senior Consolidated Sport Fishing License .............................................. $5
(65 years or older. License includes tidal, nontidal, and trout stamp. It may be purchased at any time in the calendar year in which you attain the age of 65)
Non-Resident Nontidal Sport Fishing License ......................................................... $30.50*
Non-Resident 7-Day Nontidal Sport Fishing License ............................................. $7.50*
Non-Resident 3-Day Nontidal Sport Fishing License ............................................. $5*
*Or the same fee charged to visiting Maryland anglers by a non-resident's home state, whichever is higher—dnr.maryland.gov/Pages/service_fishing_license.aspx
Non-Resident Trout Stamp ........................................................................................ $10
Non-Resident Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Fishing License ................. $22.50
Non-Resident 7-Day Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Fishing License ........ $12
Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Boat License ............................................... $50
1. Passengers onboard licensed boats do not need a license. However, they must have a free Maryland Saltwater Angler Registration (see below).
2. An individual Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Fishing License and a complimentary individual crabbing license are included for the person who purchases this license.
Maryland Saltwater Angler Registration ................................................................. Free
Unless individually licensed, a free registration is required for:
1. Passengers on boats with Bay and Coastal Sport Boat Licenses.
2. Anglers fishing in designated License Free Fishing Areas.
3. Waterfront property owners and family fishing on private property.
4. Anglers in possession of a Virginia saltwater recreational fishing license or on a Virginia-licensed boat.

Penalties

The department may suspend an individual’s fishing license or privilege if that individual is convicted of, or pays a fine for, violating certain fishing rules. A full copy of suspendable fishing violations can be found in the Code of Maryland Regulations 08.02.13.05. To view this regulation, visit dsd.state.md.us/COMAR/ComarHome.html. Individuals who are suspended for violating fishing rules in Maryland may also be suspended in other states under the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact.

YOUR FISHING DOLLARS AT WORK

Fishing license and trout stamp revenue allows the department to assess, protect, conserve and manage Maryland’s fisheries.

To learn more, read the latest budget report here at dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/documents/FY2017_SFAC_Budget_Rpt.pdf

Who Needs A Trout Stamp?

A trout stamp is required for anyone 16 years of age or older to catch, attempt to catch or possess trout in nontidal waters.

How Do I Know Whether I Need A Tidal or Nontidal Maryland Fishing License?

To see whether the area you are fishing requires a tidal or nontidal fishing license, please see Tidal/Nontidal Dividing Lines section on page 34.

Maryland Saltwater Angler Registration Exemptions

Anglers fishing in the Atlantic Ocean, Coastal Bays, Chesapeake Bay or tidal tributaries must be registered with the state unless one of the following applies:
• You are under 16 years of age.
• You are fishing from a licensed charter boat or from a licensed commercial fishing pier.
• You are fishing on a free fishing day—the first two Saturdays in June and July.
• You possess a valid commercial tidal fish license.
• You possess a Potomac River Fisheries Commission recreational fishing license.
• You possess a Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Fishing License.

To Obtain A License or Saltwater Angler Registration:

Go to compass.dnr.maryland.gov/dnrcompassportal or visit a Department of Natural Resources Licensing and Registration Service Center or license agent (select tackle shop or outdoor outfitter).

Purple Heart Recipient Discount

Any Maryland veteran who has received a Purple Heart for injuries sustained defending our nation qualifies for a 50 percent discount on Maryland hunting and fishing licenses.

Complimentary Licenses

A complimentary license is available to Maryland residents who are 100 percent service-connected disabled veterans or former prisoners of war. The license incorporates the nontidal angler’s license, trout stamp and Bay and Coastal sport fishing license. Applicants must furnish a letter of disability or a letter of certification from the Veterans Administration with their initial application.

These licenses must be obtained at a Department of Natural Resources Service Center and cannot be obtained at independent retail locations. Locate your nearest Service Center by visiting dnr.maryland.gov/pages/service_centers.aspx.
A complimentary license is also available to residents and nonresidents who are blind.

**License Exemptions**

**Statewide Sport Fishing License Exemptions**
You may fish for finfish without a license if:
- You are under 16 years of age.
- You are a resident of Maryland, on active duty with Armed Forces, on leave with official orders.
- You fish on a free fishing day—the first two Saturdays in June and July 4.
- You fish in an area designated by Department of Natural Resources as a license free fishing area, and you have obtained a Maryland Saltwater Angler Registration (if required in that area.). A list of license free fishing areas is available on page 13 and online at dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/license-free.aspx.

**Nontidal Sport Fishing License Exemptions**
You may fish for finfish without a license in Maryland’s nontidal waters if:
- You possess a valid commercial fishing license.

**Trout Stamp Exemptions**
A trout stamp is not required for possession of trout taken from privately owned lakes and ponds or licensed fee fishing lakes and ponds.

**Tidal Sport Fishing License Exemptions**
You may fish for finfish without a license in Maryland’s tidal waters if:
- You are fishing from a licensed charter boat or licensed commercial fishing pier.
- You are fishing from a boat displaying a Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Fishing Boat License.
- You are an owner or tenant, their spouse, child or the spouse of their child residing on the property and fishing from the property’s shoreline.
- Anglers should confirm riparian ownership before fishing. Anglers with riparian shorelines must comply with all fishing rules.

**Virginia**
- A resident of Virginia possessing a valid Virginia nontidal fishing license issued in that resident’s name may fish in nontidal waters of the mainstem of the Potomac River opposite the shore of Virginia.

Contact Fishing and Boating Services for license exemption information concerning:
- An individual who attends, resides, or is under treatment by a state approved mental health facility
- A nonprofit organization that works with individuals with physical or mental disabilities
- A governmental entity or nonprofit organization that works with individuals with physical or mental disabilities who are serving or have served in the armed forces
- The primary caregiver or the representative for any of the above categories

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**Delmar**
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RECIPROCAL LICENSES

- A resident of Virginia possessing a valid Virginia saltwater fishing license issued in that resident’s name may fish any portion of the tidal waters of Maryland, so long as they have obtained a Maryland Saltwater Angler Registration.
- A resident of Maryland possessing a valid Maryland Nontidal Sport Fishing License issued in that person’s name can fish from the Virginia banks of the Potomac River opposite the shore of Maryland without a Virginia fishing license.
- Any holder of a valid Maryland Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Fishing License may fish in Virginia tidal saltwater, regardless of residency, so long as they have obtained a Virginia Saltwater Angler Registration.

**West Virginia**

- A resident of West Virginia possessing a valid West Virginia fishing license issued in that resident’s name may fish in nontidal waters of the Potomac River (mainstem only) opposite the shore of West Virginia, including the North Branch of the Potomac River and the Jennings Randolph Reservoir.

**Pennsylvania**

- A resident of Pennsylvania possessing a valid Pennsylvania fishing license issued in that resident’s name may fish in the portions of the Conowingo and Youghiogheny reservoirs lying within the boundaries of Maryland without a Maryland fishing license.
- A resident of Maryland possessing a valid Maryland Nontidal Sport Fishing License issued in that resident’s name may fish on the portions of the Conowingo and Youghiogheny reservoirs lying within the boundaries of Pennsylvania without a Pennsylvania fishing license.

**Potomac River**

- Reciprocal fishing privileges extend from waters’ edge to waters’ edge. It does not include tributaries or fishing from shore.
- The Conowingo Reservoir extends from the Conowingo Dam in Maryland to Holtwood Dam in Pennsylvania. The Youghiogheny Reservoir extends from the red posts on the Youghiogheny River in Maryland downstream to Youghiogheny Dam in Pennsylvania.
- A Potomac River Fisheries Commission recreational fishing license holder may fish any portion of the tidal waters of Maryland.
- A valid Maryland Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Fishing License holder may fish any portion of the Potomac River mainstem downstream of the I-95/I-495 Woodrow Wilson Bridge.

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24 BAY

26 BAY
Licenses and Fees

Crabbing licenses and registrations are valid for 365 days from the date of purchase/registration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maryland Resident</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Resident</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland Resident who possesses a Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Fishing License or a Resident Senior Consolidated Sport Fishing License</td>
<td>$2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational Crabbing Boat License*</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterfront Property Crab Pot Registration</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Who Needs A Maryland Recreational Crabbing License?

Anyone who uses the following gear:
- Collapsible crab traps
- Eel pots for own bait
- Net Rings
- Seines
- Trotline

Additionally, anyone who uses other legal gear to catch more than the following quantities of crab:
- More than 24 with a limit of one bushel of male hard crabs
- More than 12 with a limit of 24 soft crabs or male peelers

You also do not need a license if you are:
- Using license-exempt gear, you are still limited to the unlicensed crabber limits of no more than 24 male hard crabs and no more than 12 soft crabs or male peelers.
- Assisting another individual who has a recreational crabbing license.
- Crabbing from a boat that is displaying a recreational crabbing boat decal.

You do not need a license if you are using the following gear:
- Handlines
- Dip nets

If you are crabbing without a license using license-exempt gear, you are still limited to the unlicensed crabber limits. See pages 40 and 41 for crab catch limits.

Waterfront Property Crab Pot Registration

Registration - Annual

An owner, lessee, or tenant of a private shoreline property may use a maximum of two crab pots, regardless of the number of owners or lessees of the property, and must be annually registered with the department. The registration is free and it does NOT count as a recreational crabbing license.

A license is not needed to use properly registered crab pots; however, you are limited to the unlicensed crabber limits. See pages 40 and 41 for details.

Private property crab pots set in the Atlantic Ocean, Coastal Bays and their tributaries do NOT need to be registered.

Recreational Crabbing Boat License

A person that purchases a recreational crabbing boat license receives a decal that must be attached to their boat. When the decal is attached to the boat the individuals on the boat do not need to be licensed to catch crabs. The decal allows the use of gear (trotlines and collapsible traps or net rings) that would otherwise require a separate recreational crabbing license. The decal is equivalent to one recreational crabbing license. See the licensed boat limits on page 40. The person who purchases the boat license is issued an individual crabbing license that can be used when the individual is not on their boat.

A recreational crabbing license is not required in the Atlantic Ocean, Coastal Bays and their tributaries.

LICENSE FREE FISHING AREAS

Maryland features many areas where recreational anglers can fish year-round without a fishing license. When fishing in these areas you are exempt from all license and stamp fees and requirements. You are required to observe all other fishing rules. A free MD/PRFC angler registration is also required for anglers fishing without a license.

**LICENSE FREE FISHING AREAS**

**DORCHESTER COUNTY**
- Cambridge—Long Wharf from south end of city-owned bulkhead associated with the Municipal Yacht Basin within Cambridge Creek to the end of east breakwater at mouth of the Municipal Yacht Basin.

**FREDERICK COUNTY**
- Gambrill State Park—Banks of the one acre pond located within Gambrill State Park boundaries, near the Park’s campground. (Angler registration not required at this location.)

**HARFORD COUNTY**
- Havre de Grace—Tydings Memorial Park within designated area, and pier at the end of Congress Street.

**KENT COUNTY**
- Chestertown—MD Route 213 Bridge over Chester River.

**SOMERSET COUNTY**
- Crisfield City Dock — City dock/depot area at the end of West Main Street.
- Janes Island State Park—Bulkhead area on Daugherty Creek within the boundaries of Janes Island State Park.

**WICOMICO COUNTY**
- Shallot Point—Pier and town dock off Ferry Street on the Nanticoke River.
- Salisbury—Designated city-owned bulkhead on the Wicomico River between Mill Street and Division Street.
- Tyaskin Park—County-owned park on Wetipquin Creek west of Rt. 349 at Tyaskin.

**WORCESTER COUNTY**
- Pocomoke City—City docks from Laurel Street boat ramp to US Route 13 overpass and Winter Quarter dock on Pocomoke River.
- Snow Hill—All-city-owned riverfront property which includes Byrd Park, Sturgis Park, and city bulkheading adjacent to the municipal parking lot near the Route 12 bridge over the Pocomoke River.
- Ocean City—Northside Park—Town-owned pier and park at 125th Street.
- Ocean City—Chicago Avenue—Bulkhead between 2nd and 4th Streets.

See page 40 and 41 for details.
GENERAL FISHING DEFINITIONS

ARTIFICIAL FLY
A lure constructed by winding natural or synthetic material such as feathers, fur, hair, tinsel, thread, fiber, wire, plastic, cork, or rubber on or around the hook, and designed to be cast by means of a fly rod.

ARTIFICIAL LURE
The following are considered artificial lures: spinners, spoons, plugs and molded facsimiles of the same species.

BAIT
Any item that emits an odor or scent such as worms, minnows, crayfish, insects, and food items. The addition of any scent to an artificial lure or fly to make it smell like bait, makes it bait.

BLACK BASS
Refers to both largemouth and smallmouth bass.

CATCH
Catch means to take, kill, trap, gather, harvest or in any manner reduce any fish to personal possession.

CHUMMING
Placing fish, parts of fish, or other natural or manmade attractants upon which fish might feed, in the water, not attached to a hook, for the purpose of attracting fish to a particular area so that they might be caught.

CIRCLE HOOK
A non-offset hook with the point turned perpendicularly back to the shank. Circle hooks used in bait fisheries should be non-offset. That is, if the hook is laid on a flat surface, all parts of the hook lie flat on the surface.

CULL
After being in possession of a fish, to discard or exchange that fish to possess another fish of the same species.

DAILY CREEEL
Daily creel is the number of fish that an angler can keep after a single day of fishing.

EEZ
The U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone is where the U.S. federal government has jurisdiction over natural resources. It begins at 3 nautical miles and extends to 200 nautical miles from the Maryland coast.

FOOD RACK
Any condition where a fish is controlled with an open wound they can cause serious infections, particularly for people with liver disease or a weakened immune system.

IN AGGREGATE
A catch of related fish species counted together.

LIVE-LINING
Using a live finfish on a hook for the purpose of catching other fish with hook and line, rod and reel, or handlines.

POSSSESSION
Any condition where a fish is controlled with the angler’s intent of ownership. Possession limit is the maximum number of fish that an angler may have in their possession after two or more days of fishing.

STINGER HOOK
A hook which trails another hook or hook unit, either by direct physical attachment to the lead hook or hook unit, or by a connective device such as a line, swivel or chain, and is part of the same bait or lure.

TROLLING
The method of angling during which fish are attracted to a lure or bait being trailed from a boat which is moving forward or backward by mechanical, manual or wind power.

GENERAL DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

A Guide to Skin Wounds and Water Contact

Vibrio are bacteria that occur naturally in brackish and salt waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries as well as coastal bays, especially when the water is warm. If Vibrio or other bacteria come into contact with an open wound they can cause serious infections, particularly for people with liver disease or a weakened immune system.

Protect Yourself
- If you have any cuts or scrapes, avoid warm Chesapeake Bay and tidal tributary waters.
- If water contact cannot be avoided, cover wounds with waterproof bandages.
- Clean any cut or a scrape immediately with soap and clean water or hand sanitizer then wash as soon as possible.
- Wear shoes and gloves to avoid cuts and scrapes.

If you develop a wound with unusual redness, swelling or drainage, SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY and let your health care provider know whether you came in contact with brackish or salt water.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
phpa.health.maryland.gov/oehfp/chs/pages/healthyswimming.aspx | toll-free 866-703-3266

MARYLAND HEALTHY BEACHES
marylandhealthybeaches.com/vibrio.html
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## RECREATIONAL GEAR—NONTIDAL

These are the **ONLY** types of gear you may use in nontidal waters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GEAR</th>
<th>RULES AND EXCEPTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BAIT TRAPS</td>
<td>• Must be marked with the individual’s name and address or DNRIid number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Must be checked daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Unless attached to a boat that is not docked, must be set within 100 feet of the shore (private pier/dock or marked by a buoy or pole with a sign)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• If set on public property, must be set within 100 feet of the owner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• If set on private property, must have permission of the landowner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May only be used in any trout management area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• One may be used by each individual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOOK AND LINE, ROD AND REEL</td>
<td>• Individual must be actively in control of the gear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND HANDLINES</td>
<td>• Snagging is not legal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May use up to 3 active lines at a time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May not use more than 2 hook units per line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• When ice fishing, 5 tip ups or rods may be used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NETS (general rules that</td>
<td>• May not bait nets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apply to seines, dip nets</td>
<td>• Except for landing nets, nets may not be used in any Trout Management Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and landing nets)</td>
<td>• A non-resident may only use landing nets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEINES</td>
<td>• Must have mesh no greater than ¼ inch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Must not exceed 6 feet in width and 4 feet in height</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Must only be used to catch minnows and bait fish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May not be used within 50 feet of a dam or the mouth of any river or tributary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Must be emptied on shore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIP NETS</td>
<td>• May only be used in areas of the Potomac River, Monocacy River and Conococheague Creek that lie within Allegany, Carroll, Frederick and Washington counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May only be used to catch carp, catfish, Northern snakehead, or suckers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May not be used in any other area or to catch any other species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LANDING NETS</td>
<td>• May only be used to land a fish caught by other means</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOW, GIG, SPEAR AND SPEAR</td>
<td>• Must have a retrieval line attached</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND SPEAR GUN</td>
<td>• May not use projectile gear in any trout management area, or state-controlled community ponds or lakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May not be used within 100 yards of any human being, private or public swimming area, international diving flag, occupied duck blind, or vessel other than the vessel occupied by the individual using the projectile gear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The distance restrictions will not apply if the individual receives permission from the affected parties prior to using the projectile gear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May not be used to fish for any trout species, walleye, striped bass, striped bass hybrids, northern pike, muskellunge, or muskellunge hybrids including tiger musky, largemouth and smallmouth bass, snapping turtles and any threatened or endangered species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAND AND NOODLING</td>
<td>• No special rules</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Nontidal Sport Fishing

**It Is Illegal**

1. To cut a hole through the ice measuring more than 10 inches in any direction for the purpose of ice fishing.
2. To take bait fish from Put-and-Take Fishing Areas or Special Trout Fisheries Management Areas.
3. In Deer and Swan creeks in Harford County:
   - For a person to catch or attempt to catch fish other than by hook and line, with line held in hand, attached to a pole or rod held in hand, or attended in a manner that the fish voluntarily takes bait or lure in its mouth.
   - For a person to possess or use minnows for bait while fishing.
   - For anyone to use a dip net baited by attaching an attractant to the net material or frame.
4. To remove the head and tail of fish in possession while at the fishing location, except for snakeheads. The head and tail shall remain attached in such a manner as to permit identification of fish species and total length. A person may take snakehead fish from Maryland waters by any legal means provided that the head of the snakehead fish is immediately removed, or the body is gutted, or the gills are removed from both sides of the fish, or the fish is filleted upon capture.
5. For a person to catch snapping turtles from waters of the state by hook and line, trotline, bow and arrow, net, seine, trap, fish pot, or other fishing rig, spear, gig or iron or any device capable of piercing any part of the turtle.
6. To operate any vehicle on any lands owned or controlled by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources without written permission from the department except on those roads, lanes or areas which are open to automobile traffic or which are specifically marked by the department.
7. To camp on lands owned and controlled by the department except on designated sites or with written permission.
8. To swim in any State-controlled lake except in designated areas.
9. In the Battie Mixon Fishing Hole:
   - To fish between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise.
   - To use boats propelled by gasoline or diesel power.
10. To fish any streams or nontidal waters that contain trout between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. (This does not apply to nontidal impoundments of five acres or more.)
11. To cull trout.
12. Regarding crayfish in the Susquehanna River, Middle Potomac River, Monocacy River and Upper Potomac River basins, it is illegal to:
   - Catch or process any species of crayfish unless the head is immediately removed behind the eyes upon capture.
   - Use any species of crayfish as bait unless the head is removed behind the eyes.
   - Catch and possess a female crayfish with eggs attached to the underside of the abdomen.

**RULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

Please check the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Fishing and Boating Services regulations page for possible changes at [dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/regulations/changes.aspx](http://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/regulations/changes.aspx)
**Recreational Gear—Tidal**

These are the **only** types of gear you may use in tidal waters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gear</th>
<th>Rules and Exceptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bait Traps</td>
<td>• Must be marked with the individual’s name and address or DNRid number &lt;br&gt; • Must be checked daily &lt;br&gt; • Unless attached to a boat that is not docked, must be set within 100 feet of the shore and either be attached to the property/private pier/dock or marked by a buoy or pole with a sign &lt;br&gt; • If set on public property, must be set within 100 feet of the owner &lt;br&gt; • If set on private property, must have permission of the landowner &lt;br&gt; • May not be used in any trout management area &lt;br&gt; • Only one may be used by each individual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hook and Line, Rod and Reel, and Handlines</td>
<td>• Individual must be actively in control of the gear &lt;br&gt; • Snagging is not legal &lt;br&gt; • May not use more than two hook units per line &lt;br&gt; • For striped bass gear restrictions see Striped Bass section—pages 38 and 39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jugs</td>
<td>• May only be used in tidal tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay &lt;br&gt; • May only be used from July 1–February 28 &lt;br&gt; • Must be attended between sunset and sunrise &lt;br&gt; • May use up to 10 jugs with no more than 2 hooks per line and no more than one line per jug &lt;br&gt; • Must be marked with the individual’s DNRid number &lt;br&gt; • May not be used to take largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, striped bass, all shark species, snapping turtles and any threatened or endangered species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nets</td>
<td>• May not bait nets &lt;br&gt; Nets are prohibited in certain county waters at certain times of year. Call 410-260-8300 or 800-688-3467 for more information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIP Nets</td>
<td>Follow general net rules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cast Nets</td>
<td>Radius may not exceed 10 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEINES</td>
<td>• Must have mesh no greater than ¼ inch &lt;br&gt; • Must not exceed 50 feet in width and 5 feet in height &lt;br&gt; • Must only be used to catch minnows and bait fish &lt;br&gt; • May not be used within 50 feet of a dam or the mouth of any river or tributary &lt;br&gt; • May not be emptied from a boat or on the shore or in water less than 12 inches deep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landing Nets</td>
<td>May only be used to land fish caught by other means</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bow, Gig, Spear and Spear Gun</td>
<td>• Must have a retrieval line attached, except for gigs &lt;br&gt; • A gig must be propelled by hand &lt;br&gt; • May not be used within 100 yards of any human being, private or public swimming area, international diving flag, occupied duck blind, or vessel other than the vessel occupied by the individual using the projectile gear &lt;br&gt; • The distance restrictions will not apply if the individual receives permission from the affected parties prior to using the projectile gear &lt;br&gt; • May not be used to fish for any trout species, walleye, striped bass, striped bass hybrids, northern pike, muskellunge, or muskellunge hybrids including tiger musky, largemouth and smallmouth bass, snapping turtles, all shark species, lobster and any threatened or endangered species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand and Noodling</td>
<td>No special rules</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tidal Sport Fishing**

**Chesapeake Bay and Tributaries and Atlantic Ocean, Coastal Bays and Tributaries**

**It is Legal**

1. To keep any size white perch if caught by hook and line.  
2. To use an umbrella rig that has no more than two hooks or two sets of hooks.  
3. To catch and release alewife herring, American shad, blueback herring, hickory shad and sharks.

**It is Illegal**

1. To have in one’s possession aboard any boat on the tidal waters of Maryland any striped bass cut up or filleted at any time. Striped bass must be landed whole.  
2. To have in one’s possession aboard any boat on the tidal waters of Maryland more than 15 pounds of any fish for which a size or weight limit is prescribed by law or regulation in a condition that the size or weight of the fish cannot be determined.  
3. To use Sabiki rigs or mackerel trees in Maryland. (Multiple hook rigs including Sabiki rigs and mackerel trees are allowed in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Atlantic Ocean.)  
4. To operate a boat within the area 400 yards below or 400 yards above the Conowingo Dam.

Towns such as Ocean City may have special fishing ordinances. Be sure to check local jurisdictions’ websites for restrictions.

**Statewide Restrictions**

**It is Illegal**

- To buy, sell, or offer to buy any fish or crab harvested under a recreational license.  
- To use waders or boots soled with felt or any natural or synthetic porous material capable of absorbing liquid.  
- To disturb, take, destroy or possess the nest or eggs of a terrestrial or aquatic animal.  
- To have in one’s possession aboard any boat in tidal waters any size or weight limit is prescribed by law or regulation in a condition that the size or weight of the fish cannot be determined.

**Leave No Trace**

- Be considerate of others.  
- Take trash with you.  
- Pack it in. Pack it out.  
- Clean your fish at home.  
- Avoid impacting stream banks and lake shores.  
- Do not dispose of unused bait on or near the water.  
- Recycle or dispose of old lures and line.  
- Avoid discarding dead or moribund fish.  
- Respect private property.

**Rules are Subject to Change**

Please check the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Fishing and Boating Services regulations page for possible changes at [dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/regulations/changes.aspx](http://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/regulations/changes.aspx)
The following tables summarize rules governing the harvest and possession of fish species that anglers commonly catch in Maryland. This summary does not include all regulated species. Full information and updates are available at [dsd.state.md.us/COMAR/ComarHome.html](http://dsd.state.md.us/COMAR/ComarHome.html).

### NONTIDAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE LIMITS</th>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>CREEL LIMIT</th>
<th>REMARKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Eel</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—25</td>
<td>Possession—25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baitfish (Including Madtoms)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—35 in aggregate</td>
<td>Possession—35 in aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass (Largemouth and Smallmouth)</td>
<td>12 inches as provided for by special regulations.</td>
<td>CLOSED March 1–June 15</td>
<td>Daily—5 in aggregate</td>
<td>Possession—10 in aggregate Catch and Release is permitted at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carp</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—15</td>
<td>Possession—30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chain Pickerel</td>
<td>14 inches</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—5</td>
<td>Possession—10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel Catfish</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—5</td>
<td>Possession—10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crappie</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—15</td>
<td>Possession—30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herring (Alewife and Blueback)</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Catch and Release is permitted at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muskellunge and Tiger Muskie</td>
<td>36 inches</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—1</td>
<td>Possession—2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Pike</td>
<td>30 inches</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—2</td>
<td>Possession—4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shad (American/White and Hickory)</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Catch and Release is permitted at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped Bass and Hybrid Striped Bass</td>
<td>18 inches</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—5</td>
<td>Possession—10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suckers</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—30</td>
<td>Possession—60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunfish, including Bluegills and Rock Bass (commonly known as Red Eye or Goggle-Eye)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—15 in aggregate</td>
<td>Possession—30 in aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trout—statewide (all species of trout)</td>
<td>None—Except as provided in Special Trout Management Area Regulations.</td>
<td>Open Year Round— Except as provided in Special Trout Management Area Regulations.</td>
<td>Daily—2 in aggregate</td>
<td>Possession—4 in aggregate Catch and Release is permitted at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trout: Put-and-Take Areas (all species of trout)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—5 in aggregate</td>
<td>Possession—10 in aggregate See Put-and-Take section for specific requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>Minimum Size: 15 inches year round, and during January 1–April 15 the minimum size is 15 inches with a maximum size of 20 inches, in the Potomac River mainstem approximately 0.5 miles upriver from Chain Bridge to the spillway in Cumberland.</td>
<td>Open year round—Except on Deep Creek Lake and the Youghiogheny River downstream of Route 42 bridge where it is closed from March 1 through April 15.</td>
<td>Daily—5</td>
<td>Possession—10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Perch</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>The possession of yellow perch eggs requires prior authorization from the department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Perch</td>
<td>Nontidal rivers and streams</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>Daily—10</td>
<td>Possession—20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Sturgeon, Shortnose Sturgeon, and Bivalves/Shellfish</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Special Closures:
1. Magothy River from the base of Lake Waterford Dam downstream for 3,300 feet is closed to all fishing during February, March and April.
2. Severn River and Severn Run from the Route 3 Bridge downstream for 2,400 feet during February, March and April.

Contact Information for Restricted Areas: Baltimore City Reservoirs—for Prettyboy and Liberty (boat permits required) information, rules, and regulations, call 410-795-6150.
For Loch Raven call 410-887-7692. Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Lakes—Triadelphia and Rocky Gorge fishing by permit only. For permits, rules and regulations call the information center at Brighton Dam 301-774-9124.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Minimum Size Limits</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Creel Limit</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>American Eel</strong></td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>American Shad</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Baitfish, Fish Bait</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—50 in aggregate</td>
<td>No Harvest (Catch and Release) all other dates; No tournaments during closure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bass – Largemouth, Smalmouth and Spotted</strong></td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>Jan 1–April 12 and Nov 1–Dec 31</td>
<td>Daily—4 in aggregate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>June 15–Oct 31</td>
<td>Daily—6 in aggregate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Crayfish</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—50</td>
<td>Head must be immediately removed behind the eyes upon capture unless used as bait in the water from which taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gizzard Shad</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mud Bugs (dragonfly nymphs)</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Northern Pike</strong></td>
<td>24 inches</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pickerel</strong></td>
<td>18 inches</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>River Herring</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—50 in aggregate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sauger</strong></td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>Jan 1–March 14 and May 4–Dec 31</td>
<td>Daily—6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Striped Bass and Hybrid Striped Bass</strong></td>
<td>20 inches</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—2 in aggregate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunfish, Yellow Perch, White Perch, Crappies, Catfish, Rock Bass, Suckers, Carp and White Bass</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>Daily—50 in aggregate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TROUT AND SALMON (all species)</strong></td>
<td>7 inches</td>
<td>8 a.m. April 13–Sept 2</td>
<td>Daily—5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan 1–Feb 28 and Sept 3–Dec 31</td>
<td>Daily—3 in aggregate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Walleye and Hybrids</strong></td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>Jan 1–March 14 and May 4–Dec 31</td>
<td>Daily—6 in aggregate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Paddlefish, Mussels, Clams, and Threatened and Endangered Species</strong></td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**HOW TO MEASURE A FISH**

Size limits are generally based on the total length of a fish. The total length of a fish is the maximum length with the mouth closed and the tail pinched together measured from the snout to the tip of the tail. The best way to obtain this straight line measurement is to push the fish’s snout against a vertical surface with the mouth closed and with the fish lying along a tape measure and then pinch the tail fin closed to determine the total length.

Fork length refers to the length from the snout of a fish to the end of the middle caudal fin rays. This is the measurement for determining the legal size of a shark.

The girth of a fish is best measured with a fabric ruler. Measuring the girth is helpful in trying to determine if you have a possible record fish, which is determined by total weight. By using the total length and girth of a fish in inches you can get a rough estimate of the weight in pounds with this formula:

\[
\text{Approximate weight in pounds} = \frac{(\text{Girth in inches} \times \text{Girth in inches}) \times \text{Length in inches}}{800}
\]
**SUMMER FLOUNDER HOOK RECOMMENDATIONS**

Undersized summer flounder must be released and there are two things anglers can do to maximize survivability.

- **Use a size 3/0 or larger hook.** A lot of mortality associated with hooking is caused by the fish swallowing the hook and being lodged in the gills or organs. Larger hooks can help to prevent this from happening.
- **Be ready to release a fish once it is caught.** Having the right tools such as a wet rag, pliers and a measuring board will enable you to return the fish to the water quickly. Which will improve the odds of survival.
The following restrictions apply to the areas listed:

- Creel Limit (all species) combined—5 Daily / 10 Possession.
- Minimum Size—no minimum size.
- Season—areas are closed to all fishing from 10 p.m. of the first date, to 5:30 a.m. of the second date, except as provided for by special regulation or where more restrictive fishing hours are posted.

### Areas Subject to Provisions of this Section:

#### Allegany County
- Battle Mixson Ponds .................................. 0
- Cotton Cove Pond in Glendening Recreational Complex at Frostburg ........................................... 2
- Dans Mountain Pond .................................. 0
- Evitts Creek—mainstem upstream of Interstate Route 68 .................................................. 1
- Evitts Creek Ponds .................................... 0
- Fifteen Mile Creek Watershed ........................ 1
- Flintstone Creek Watershed ........................... 0
- Georges Creek—mainstem from the upper boundary of Town Park in Westernport upstream to Neff Run .................... 0
- Jennings Run—mainstem downstream of the confluence of North Jennings Run ................ 2
- Lake Habeeb (Rocky Gap Lake) .................... 0
- Lions Park Pond, Frostburg (area subject to user restrictions by the City of Frostburg) .... 0
- North Branch Potomac River mainstem—
  from Allegany County line downstream to the upper Potomac River Commission Wastewater Treatment Plant discharge in Westernport .... 0
- North Jennings Run Watershed ........................ 2
- Orchard Pond ......................................... 0
- White Sulfur Pond .................................... 0
- Wills Creek—mainstem upstream of the US Army Corps of Engineers Flood Control Project at The Narrows above Cumberland .................. 1

#### Anne Arundel County
- Severn Run—mainstem upstream of MD Route 3 ................................................................. 1

#### Baltimore County and Baltimore City
- Avalon Pond (Lost Lake) .............................. 0
- Gunpowder Falls—mainstem from the red post located 1.6 miles downstream of Corbett Road downstream to the hiker/biker bridge located approximately one mile downstream of Phoenix Road; and from Cromwell Bridge downstream to the Interstate Rt. 95 bridge .......................................... 1

#### Calvert County
- Calvert Cliffs Pond .................................... 0
- Hutchins Pond ......................................... 0

#### Caroline County
- Tuckahoe Creek & Lake ............................... 0

#### Carroll County
- Beaver Run—upstream of MD Route 91 ........ 1
- Farm Museum Pond ................................... 2
- South Branch PatapSCO River—mainstem from West Friendship Road (Howard County side) and Main Street (Carroll County side) at Sykesville downstream to its confluence with the North Branch PatapSCO River .................. 1
- Piney Run—mainstem downstream from Arrington Road .................................................. 1
- Piney Run Reservoir .................................. 0
- Robert’s Mill Pond ................................. 0

#### Cecil County
- Big Elk Creek—mainstem from the bridge at MD Route 277 upstream to the Pennsylvania state line .................................................. 1
- Howards Pond ......................................... 0
- Principio Creek—mainstem upstream of MD Route 7 ...................................................... 1

#### Charles County
- Hughesville Pond ...................................... 0
- Myrtle Grove Wildlife Management area—
  all ponds ............................................. 0
- Weatley Lake .......................................... 0

#### Frederick County
- Cunningham Falls Lake ............................. 0
- Fishing Creek—mainstem upstream of Fish-
  ing Creek Reservoir including left fork (Steep Creek) ...................................................... 1
- Frank Bentz Pond .................................... 2
- Friends Creek Watershed ............................ 1
- Hamburg Pond ........................................ 2
- Middle Creek—mainstem from the MD Route 17 bridge near the junction of Bittle Road upstream to the confluence of Spruce Run 1
- Middletown Pond ..................................... 0
- Owens Creek—mainstem from Buck Lantz Road downstream to Roddy Road (catch and return only from June 1 through last day of February) ...................................................... 1
- Rainbow Lake ........................................ 2
- Urbana Lake .......................................... 0
- Whiskey Springs Pond ............................... 2
- Woodsboro Community Pond .................... 0

#### Garrett County
- Accident Pond .......................................... 0
- Bear Creek—mainstem from the corner of Fish Hatchery Road and Rabbit Hollow Road downstream to the confluence with the Youghiogheny River at Friendsville ............. 1
- Broadford Lake ....................................... 0
- Deep Creek Lake ..................................... 0
- Herrington Creek—mainstem ........................ 0
- Herrington Lake ...................................... 0
- Jennings Randolph Lake ........................... 0
- Little Youghiogheny River—mainstem from MD Route 219 downstream to the Youghiogheny River .................. 0

#### 2019 Closure Schedule

- Closure 0—No Closure.
- Closure 1—Sunday March 10, 2019 to Saturday March 30, 2019.

MD Guide to Fishing and Crabbing 2019

Your purchase of fishing equipment and motorboat fuel supports boating access and Sport Fish Restoration.
**TROUT STOCKING SCHEDULE AND MAPS:**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location Description</th>
<th>Stocking Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mill Run—mainstem downstream of uppermost bridge on Mill Run Road</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Germany Lake</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Branch Potomac River—mainstem from Jennings Randolph Lake upstream approximately 6 miles to the lower boundary of Potomac State Forest; from the uppermost boundary of Potomac State Forest at Wallman upstream approximately 8.5 miles to the bridge at Old Wilson Road; from the red post located approximately 100 yards above the upstream concrete abutments at Barnum, West Virginia, downstream to the red post located below a pool known as Blue Hole, approximately ½ mile upstream of Bench Mark 1110 on the Westernport United States Geological Survey Quadrangle, and from Piney Swamp Run downstream to the Allegany County line</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piney Reservoir</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savage Reservoir</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savage River—mainstem from Savage Reservoir upstream to Poplar Lick</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowy Creek mainstem</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youghiogheny River—mainstem upstream of the junction of Muddy Creek and from the upstream side of the MD Route 42 bridge downstream 0.4 miles to the confluence of Minnow Run, 50 yards downstream from Maple Street</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harford County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer Creek—mainstem from 1 mile south of Rocks State Park upstream to the bridge at MD Route 23</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Hill Pond</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Gunpowder Falls—mainstem from Jericho Road upstream to MD Route 165</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centennial Lake</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Elkhorn</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patuxent River—mainstem from base of Rocky Gorge Reservoir Dam in Laurel downstream to the Railroad crossing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Seneca Creek—from MD Route 28 upstream to MD Route 355</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Izaak Walton Pond</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Needwood</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Pond</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Branch Watershed—upstream of MD Route 410 to Norwood Road</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Lake</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince George’s County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen’s Pond</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cosca Lake</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenbelt Lake</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Artemesia</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurel Lakes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melwood Pond</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schoolhouse Pond</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tucker Pond</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Branch Patapsco River—mainstem from West Friendship Road (Howard County side) and Main Street (Carroll County side) at Sykesville downstream to its confluence with the North Branch Patapsco River</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antietam Creek—mainstem from upstream boundary of Devil’s Backbone Park to the mouth of Beaver Creek</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaver Creek—from the downstream side of the bridges on the private farm lane located below the Albert Powell State Trout Hatchery downstream to Black Rock Creek, and from Beaver Creek Road downstream to the confluence with Antietam Creek</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blairs Valley Lake</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenbrier Lake</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Springs Pond</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel Creek</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licking Creek Mainstem</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharpsburg Community Pond</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siding Hill Creek Watershed</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wicomico County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaverdam Creek—in Salisbury from Schuemaker Dam downstream to the bridge crossing at Memorial Plaza Road</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worcester County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shad Landing Pond</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS—TROUT**

### Catch-and-Return Trout Fishing Areas—Limited to Artificial Fly Fishing

#### Areas:
- Big Hunting Creek, Frederick County—all waters of Big Hunting Creek and its tributaries within Cunningham Falls State Park and Catoctin Mountain Park except Owens Creek, Little Hunting Creek, Cunningham Falls Lake and Frank Bentz Pond.
- Beaver Creek, Washington County—from the confluence with Black Rock Creek downstream approximately 1 mile to the red post located 0.1 mile above Beaver Creek Road.
- Patuxent River, Montgomery and Howard Counties—from red bank posts located on both sides of the river, approximately 400 yards below Brighton Dam downstream to Mink Hollow Road.

#### Restrictions:
- You may not possess trout while fishing in these areas.
- All trout caught must be immediately released and returned to the water.
- You may only fish with artificial flies and streamers constructed in a normal fashion using natural and/or synthetic materials, which may include feathers, fur, hair, tinsel, thread, fiber, plastic, cork, wire and rubber on a single hook with the components wound on or around the hook. Specifically prohibited are the use of molded replicas of insects, earthworms, fish eggs, fish or any invertebrate or vertebrate either singly or in combination with other materials, or other lures commonly described as spinners, spoons, or plugs made of metal, plastic, wood, rubber or similar substance or a combination of these.
- You may only fish with conventional fly fishing tackle, fly rods, fly reels, and fly line with a maximum of 18 feet of leader. Any method of angling when the fly is cast directly from the reel is prohibited. The use of spinning, spincast, and casting reels is prohibited.
- You may not possess or use any natural bait, or live bait, or any device enhanced with a scent capable of catching fish.

### Catch-and-Return Trout Fishing Areas— Limited to the Use of Artificial Lures and Flies

#### Areas:
- Patuxent River, Howard and Montgomery counties—the mainstem of the Patuxent River from the crossing of MD Route 97 upstream to the crossing of MD Route 27 and Cabin Branch from its confluence with the Patuxent River upstream to Hipsley Mill Road.
- Morgan Run, Carroll County—from bridge on London Bridges Road upstream to bridge on MD Route 97.
- Paint Branch and tributaries, Montgomery County—upstream of Fairland Road.
- Gunpowder Falls, Baltimore County—mainstem from Prettyboy Reservoir Dam downstream to Bluemound Road.
- North Branch Potomac River—from an overhead cable and red bank post located approximately 345 yards below the Jennings Randolph Reservoir spillway downstream approximately one mile to a red post, located approximately 100 yards above the upstream concrete abutments at Barnum, West Virginia, and from a red post located below a pool known as Blue Hole, approximately 1/3 mile upstream of Bench Mark 1110 on the Westernport United States Geological Survey Quadrangle, downstream approximately 4 miles to the confluence of Piney Swamp Run.
- Youhghohey River, Garrett County—mainstem beginning at the red post approximately 100 yards upstream of the Deep Creek Lake tailrace and extending downstream 4 miles to the Sang Run Bridge.
- Little Hunting Creek, Frederick County—mainstem from the red post located approximately 0.25 mile downstream of Route 806, upstream to include all waters of Little Hunting Creek within the boundaries of Cunningham Falls State Park.

#### Restrictions:
- You may not possess trout while fishing in these areas.
- All trout caught must be immediately released and returned to the water.
- You may only fish with artificial lures, including artificial flies.
- You may not possess or use any natural bait, live bait or any device enhanced with scent capable of catching fish.

### Private Property Rights

We urge anglers to respect property rights and seek permission before attempting to park, fish or enter private property. The privilege of fishing and right of entry to private property is at the owner’s discretion. Respect for landowners and their property helps to ensure continued fishing access. Poor behavior encourages landowners to post their property to prevent access. Remember that every angler pays for the improper actions of a few. Always be courteous and respectful.

### Trophy Trout Fishing Areas—Limited to the Use of Artificial Lures and Flies

#### Area:
- Savage River mainstem from the downstream side of the Rt. 135 Bridge upstream for a distance of approximately 2.7 miles to the lower suspension bridge (Allegany Bridge).

#### Restrictions:
- Two fish creel and possession limit for all species of trout combined.
- Minimum Sizes:
  - Brook trout—12 inches
  - Brown trout—18 inches
  - All other trout species—no minimum size
- You may not possess any trout smaller than the minimum size limit.
- You may only fish with artificial lures, including artificial flies.
- Treble hooks are prohibited.
- Artificial lures are restricted to single hooks with single hook points.
- You may not possess or use any natural bait, live bait or any device enhanced with a scent capable of catching fish.

### Trophy Trout Fishing Areas—Limited to Use of Artificial Flies

#### Area:
- Savage River mainstem from the Savage River Reservoir Dam downstream to the lower suspension bridge (Allegany Bridge).

#### Restrictions:
- Two fish creel and possession limit for all species of trout combined.
- Minimum Sizes:
  - Brook trout—12 inches
  - Brown trout—18 inches
  - All other trout species—no minimum size
- You may not possess any trout smaller than the minimum size limit.
- You may only fish with artificial flies and streamers.
- You may only fish with conventional fly fishing tackle (fly rods, fly reels, and fly line with a maximum of 18 feet of leader or monofilament line attached). Any method of angling when the fly is cast directly from the reel is prohibited.
The use of spinning, spincast, and casting reels is prohibited.
You may not possess or use any natural bait, live bait, or any device enhanced with a scent capable of catching fish.

Delayed Harvest Trout Fishing Areas

Group I Areas:
- Catoctin and Little Catoctin Creek, Frederick County—from US Route 40 near its intersection with MD Route 17 within Doubs Meadow Park downstream to the lower park boundary near Myersville.
- Catoctin Creek, Frederick County—within the boundaries of Catoctin Creek Park.
- Middle Patuxent River, Howard County—from US Route 29 downstream to Holiday Hill Road.
- Town Creek mainstem, Allegany County—within Green Ridge State Forest, from a red post located approximately ¼ mile downstream of the upper ford on Lower Town Creek Road, just south of the Wagner Road intersection, downstream to the red post located just upstream of the lower ford on Lower Town Creek Road (Mallory Place), and from a red post located approximately ½ mile downstream of Manifold Road to a red post located approximately 1½ miles downstream (Bull Ring Ranch).
- South Branch Patapsco River from West Friendship Rd (Howard County) and Main Street (Carroll County) upstream approximately 1.1 mile to the upper boundary of the Hugg Thomas Wildlife Management Area.

Restrictions:
- From June 1–Sept 30, the creel and possession limit is five trout (all species of trout combined), with no tackle restrictions.
- From Oct 1–June 15, you:
  - May not possess trout in these areas.
  - Must immediately release any trout caught to the water from which the trout was taken.
  - May not possess or use any natural bait, live bait, or any device enhanced with a scent capable of catching fish.

Group II Areas:
- Casselman River mainstem, Garrett County—from a boundary marked by two red posts on both stream banks located on the south side of the Interstate 68 eastbound bridge downstream to the Pennsylvania state line.
- North Branch Potomac River mainstem, Garrett County—from the lowermost boundary of the Potomac State Forest near Lostland Run to the uppermost boundary of the Potomac State Forest at Wallman.
- Youghiogheny River mainstem, Garrett County—below Friendsville from a site located 50 yards downstream of Maple Street (at the confluence of Minnow Run) downstream 1.8 miles to the powerline crossing upstream of the Youghiogheny Reservoir.

Restrictions:
- From June 16–Sept 30, the creel and possession limit is five trout (all species of trout combined), with no tackle restrictions.
- From Oct 1–June 15, you:
  - May not possess trout in these areas.
  - Must immediately release any trout caught to the water from which the trout was taken.
  - May not possess or use any natural bait, live bait, or any device enhanced with a scent capable of catching fish.

Put-and-Take/Catch-and-Return Trout Fishing Area

Area:
- Owens Creek, Frederick County—mainstem from Buck Lantz Road downstream to Roddy Road.

Restrictions:
- From March 1–May 31:
  - No bait, lure or tackle restrictions are in effect.
  - Put-and-Take Trout Area regulations apply.
- From June 1–the last day of February, you:
  - May not possess trout in these areas.
  - May not possess or use any natural bait, live bait, or any device enhanced with a scent capable of catching fish.

Zero Creel Limit Area—All Species of Trout

Area:
- North Branch of the Potomac River from the Upper Potomac River Commission Wastewater Treatment Plant discharge at Westernport downstream to the Route 956 bridge at Pinto.

Restrictions:
- Zero creel and possession limits for all trout species.
- No tackle restrictions.

Zero Creel Limit Area—Brook Trout

Area:
- Savage River mainstem and tributaries upstream of the Savage River Reservoir dam, excluding the impoundments and Put-and-Take Trout Fishing Areas—Savage River Reservoir, Savage River from Savage River Reservoir upstream to Poplar Lick Run, and New Germany Lake.

Restrictions:
- Zero creel and possession limits for brook trout.
- Two fish creel and possession limit for all other trout species combined.
- You may only fish with artificial flies and artificial lures.
- You may not possess or use natural or live bait, or any device enhanced with a scent capable of catching fish.

The online Public Angler Access Map includes color codes to illustrate special management areas. [gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/publicfishingaccess/index.html](https://gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/publicfishingaccess/index.html)
FISH CONSUMPTION GUIDELINES

Fish are recommended as part of a healthy and balanced diet. Most fish are safe to eat, but some have levels of contaminants which may be harmful. The Maryland Department of the Environment monitors fish and provides consumption advisories with recommended limits about how often certain fish should be eaten to minimize health risks. These advisories are intended for people who eat Maryland fish on a regular basis. The Maryland Department of the Environment analyzes fish for two contaminants which can pose health risks and are known to accumulate in fish: PCBs and methylmercury. The information included in Maryland Department of the Environment consumption advisories is of particular importance for women and children because of the potential harmful effect of these contaminants on developing brains.

To see fish consumption advisories and other information which will help you make the best choices about what fish you eat and how often to eat them, visit mde.state.md.us/programs/marylander/fish-handshellfish/pages/fishconsumptionadvisory.aspx or call 410-537-3906.
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LARGEMOUTH AND SMALLMOUTH BASS

Trophy Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass Fishing Areas

Areas:
• Blairs Valley Lake, Washington County.
• Centennial Lake, Howard County.
• Chesapeake Ranch Estates, Calvert County—all ponds.
• Johnson Pond, Wicomico County.
• Leonard Mill Pond, Wicomico County.
• Little Seneca Lake, Montgomery County.
• Patuxent Naval Air Test Center, St. Mary’s County—all ponds.
• St. Mary’s Lake, St. Mary’s County—located on MD Route 5.

Restrictions:
• You may not possess more than five bass (largemouth and smallmouth bass combined) per day while fishing in these areas.
• No bass in possession can measure between 11 and 15 inches long.
• Only one bass in possession may be 15 inches or longer.

Catch-and-Release Bass Fishing Areas

Areas:
• Monocacy River—from the Potomac River upstream to Buckeystown Dam.
• North Branch Potomac River—from the spillway in Cumberland upstream approximately 25 miles to US Route 220 Bridge at Keyser, West Virginia.
• Patapsco River—from Interstate 70 downstream to MD Route 144 (Frederick Road).
• Potomac River—from Dam No. 2 (Seneca Breaks) upstream to the mouth of the Monocacy River.
• Wheatley Lake, Charles County.

Restrictions:
• You may not possess largemouth or smallmouth bass in these areas.
• You must immediately release any largemouth or smallmouth bass into the water where it was caught.

LARGEMOUTH AND SMALLMOUTH BASS TOURNAMENT PERMITS

A black bass tournament permit is required if all of the following conditions apply:
• The tournament has 10 or more boats participating.
• The tournament has a specific location where fish are weighed, measured, counted or otherwise entered.
• The tournament provides anglers an offer, reward or incentive for catching black bass.

For bass information and tournament registration, go to dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/Pages/bass/ta.aspx. The application deadline is either 15 days prior to the tournament if the contest will have 10–50 boats, or 30 days prior for tournaments with 50 or more boats.

TIPS FOR LIVE RELEASE TOURNAMENTS

• Use a big enough live well; one pound fish per gallon of water.
• Use a minimum 750 gal/hour pump.
• Use ice and water exchanges, and keep the live well water temperatures 5–7 degrees F below the river water temperature.
• Take extra care when fishing summer tournaments. Extreme heat can be a killer.
• Use continuous circulation and frequent water exchanges, and periodically lift the lids of live wells to expel carbon dioxide. This may require more of your attention during periods of rough water when bass experience increased stress.
• Act quickly if the live well stops working! Bucket in fresh water every 10 minutes, use a spare pump, move your fish to a working live well, or release them.
• Use an effective culling strategy that prevents tearing the lips or tissue of bass.
• Remove dead bass from live wells; do not discard harvested species at boat ramps or near parking lots. In many cases, harvested fish can be consumed or donated for consumption.
• Clean and remove algae or plant material from live well and intake systems.

BOWFISHING

Bowfishing has become increasingly popular. Species that are often targeted with a bow include carp, gar and snakeheads. It is illegal to use a bow to hunt some popular sportfishes, such as largemouth bass, striped bass, trout and all sharks. Please review other rules in the Recreational Gear section of this Guide (Pages 16–17).
Regulations
A person aboard a vessel, raft or tube must wear a U.S. Coast Guard Approved Type I, II, III or V life jacket at all times while on the upper Potomac River and its tributaries, between November 15 and the following May 15. This regulation is in addition to class III, IV, V, and VI White Water Stream segment regulations, which require life jackets to be worn at all times.

Class III rapids (hazardous)
Dam #3 to Knoxville Falls.

Class IV rapids (significant hazard to life)
Great Falls (foot of falls) to Chain Bridge.

Class VI rapids (extreme risk to life)
Great Falls area from the base of the aqueduct dam to a line from the foot of the main falls on the Virginia shoreline to the Maryland shoreline below Olmstead Island.

Safety Tips
ALWAYS wear an approved life jacket while on the Potomac. Leave a float plan with someone at home describing where you are going, who you’re with and when you expect to return.

Know the weather predictions for the area. REMEMBER the river currents are strong and unpredictable, especially after heavy rains. Wading should NOT be attempted when the river levels exceed the normal level.

River Flow Information
- Conowingo Dam spill hotline—877-457-2525.
- Jennings Randolph Lake (North Branch Potomac) and Savage River Dam projected releases—410-957-2823 or online—nab-wc.usace.army.mil/mapserver/index.html.
- Potomac River flow at Hagerstown—301-223-6377.
- Susquehanna riverflow at Conowingo—888-457-4076.
- Youghiogheny River white water release schedule—315-413-2823 or online—deepcreekhydro.com.
- C&O Canal - www.nps.gov/choh/planyour-visit/conditions.htm

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FISH IDENTIFICATION

For the most up-to-date Maryland Fishing Information—dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries

Atlantic Coast  Nontidal  Chesapeake Bay

For information on more species of fish go to: dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/fishfacts-index.aspx
To learn more about some of Maryland’s species of sharks go to page 45 of this guide. For Invasive Species identification go to page 36.

American Eel
- 9” minimum, creel limit 25

Brook Trout
- No minimum size*, creel limit 2* (combined)
  FishMaryland Award Size 21”

Fallfish
- No minimum size or creel limit

Atlantic Spadefish
- No minimum size, creel limit 20 in aggregate
  FishMaryland Award Size 24”

Brown Trout
- No minimum size*, creel limit 2* (combined)
  FishMaryland Award Size 21”

Largemouth Bass
- See tables pages 17–19
  FishMaryland Award Size 21”

Black Crappie
- No minimum size, nontidal creel limit 15
  FishMaryland Award Size 15”

Chain Pickerel
- 14” minimum, creel limit 5 (nontidal), 10 (tidal)
  FishMaryland Award Size 24”

Muskellunge
- 36” minimum, creel limit 1
  FishMaryland Award Size 40”

Black Drum
- 16” minimum, creel limit 1
  FishMaryland Award Size 48”

Channel Catfish
- No size limits, nontidal creel limit—5; no tidal creel limit
  FishMaryland Award Size 30”

Northern Pike
- 30” minimum, creel limit 2
  FishMaryland Award Size 38”

Black Sea Bass
- See online version for season and limits
  FishMaryland Award Size 20”

Cobia
- See online version for season and limits
  FishMaryland Award Size 44”

Rainbow Trout
- No minimum size*, creel limit 2* (combined)
  FishMaryland Award Size 20”

Red Drum
- (channel bass, puppy drum)
  18” minimum & 27” max slot limit, creel limit 1
  FishMaryland Award Size 36”, Catch & Release Only

Bluefish
- 8” minimum, creel limit 10
  FishMaryland Award Size 34”

Croaker (hardhead)
- 9” minimum, creel limit 25
  FishMaryland Award Size 18”
**Smallmouth Bass**
See tables pages 17–19
FishMaryland Tidal & Nontidal Award Size 20”

**Walleye**
See pages 18 and 20 for season and limits
FishMaryland Award Size 26”

**Striped Bass (rockfish)**
See striped bass section for season and limits.
FishMaryland Nontidal Award Size 36”
FishMaryland Chesapeake & Coast Award Size 40”

**Yellow Perch**
9” minimum in tidal waters and nontidal rivers and streams; no minimum size in lakes and ponds; creel limit 10
FishMaryland Award Size 14”

**Sheepshead**
See online version for season and limits
FishMaryland Award Size 24”

**Summer Flounder (fluke)**
See online version for season and limits
FishMaryland Award Size 24”

**Tautog**
See online version for season and limits
FishMaryland Award Size 24”

**Walleye**
See pages 18 and 20 for season and limits
FishMaryland Award Size 26”

**Weakfish**
13” minimum, creel limit 1
FishMaryland Award Size 24”

**White Perch**
No minimum size or creel limit
FishMaryland Award Size 13”

**Spotted Seatrout**
14” minimum, creel limit 4
FishMaryland Award Size 24”

**White Perch**
No minimum size or creel limit if caught hook & line; 8” minimum if caught with any other gear
FishMaryland Award Size 14”

**Spanish Mackerel**
14” minimum, creel limit 15
FishMaryland Award Size 22”

**Sheepshead**
See online version for season and limits
FishMaryland Award Size 24”

* except where otherwise indicated in nontidal limits

Fish illustrations by Duane Raver and Diane Rome Peebles
**PUBLIC LAKES & PONDS**

The use of boats or motors on ponds and lakes is subject to local restrictions. Consult with local authorities before making your trip.

* Designates locations with boat ramp facilities.

### ALLEGANY COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPERTY</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>ACREAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BATTIE MIXON FISHING HOLE</td>
<td>MD Route 51 at Oldtown</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTON COVE POND</td>
<td>Lion’s Park Glendening</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAN’S MOUNTAIN POND</td>
<td>MD Route 36 two miles east of Lonaconing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EVITS CREEK COMMUNITY PONDS</td>
<td>I-68, Exit 46 four miles east of Cumberland</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIONS PARK POND</td>
<td>Frostburg (subject to user restrictions by the city of Frostburg)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORCHARD POND</td>
<td>MD Route 51 Green Ridge State Forest</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* ROCKY GAP LAKE (LAKE HABEE)</td>
<td>I-68, Exit 50 five miles northwest of Flintstone</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHITE SULPHUR COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>I-68, Exit 62 Green Ridge State Forest, 12 miles east of Flintstone</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CALVERT COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPERTY</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>ACREAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CALVERT CLIFFS PARK POND</td>
<td>Route 4, near Lusby</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUTCHINS POND</td>
<td>off Mt. Harmony Road, off Route 2, near Sunderlin</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAMBERS LAKE</td>
<td>MD Route 306 in Federalsburg</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* SMITHVILLE LAKE</td>
<td>US Route 404 east to Noble Road</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
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### CAROLINE COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPERTY</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>ACREAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BENNETT CERF POND</td>
<td>off MD Route 27 within Random House Industrial Park</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FARM MUSEUM POND</td>
<td>west of MD Route 32 near Westminster</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE HASHAWHA</td>
<td>off Rinehart Road</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* LIBERTY RESERVOIR</td>
<td>Route 26 near Wards Chapel</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH CARROLL COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>MD Route 30 at Manchester</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* PINEY RUN RESERVOIR</td>
<td>MD Route 32 near Eldersburg</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROBERT’S MILL POND</td>
<td>east of Taneytown, north of Route 140</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPPER JOHN OWINGS</td>
<td>John Owings Road</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WESTMINSTER COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>US Route 140 at Westminster</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CECIL COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPERTY</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>ACREAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* CONOWINGO RESERVOIR</td>
<td>US Route 1 at Conowingo</td>
<td>4000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELKTON COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>MD Route 281 east of MD Route 213</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RISING SUN COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>MD Route 273 in Rising Sun</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEMMERS RUN RESERVOIR</td>
<td>Stemmers Run Road at MD Route 282—call 410-356-9272 for permission</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CHARLES COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPERTY</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>ACREAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* GILBERT RUN PARK (WHEATLEY LAKE)</td>
<td>MD Route 6; east of Oliver’s Shop</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUGHESVILLE COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>MD Route 5 at Hughesville</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* MYRTLE GROVE LAKE</td>
<td>MD Route 225 near Ripley</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
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### DORCHESTER COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPERTY</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>ACREAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GALESTOWN LAKE</td>
<td>Galestown Road east of MD Route 313</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
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### FREDERICK COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPERTY</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>ACREAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>US Route 79 at Brunswick House Industrial Park</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* CUNNINGHAM FALLS LAKE</td>
<td>MD Route 77 west of Thurmont</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMMITSBURG RESERVOIR (RAINBOW LAKE)</td>
<td>Hampton Valley Road near Emmitsburg—Town Permit Required</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRANK BENTZ MEMORIAL POND</td>
<td>MD Route 77 west of Thurmont</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAMBRILL COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>US Route 40 near Frederick</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBERTY TOWN COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>MD Route 75 at Libertytown</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URBANA COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>Dixon Road off Route 80 at Urbana</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HELP SAVE MARYLAND’S ENDANGERED HELLBENDERS—PLEASE DO NOT KILL

The hellbender is a large, dark, aquatic salamander that can live for more than 30 years and grow to over two feet long. Hellbenders can bite, and their protective coating of slime makes them difficult to handle. If you catch a hellbender on your fishing line, cut the line as close to the hook as possible and let the animal go.

If you have seen or caught a hellbender, we would like to hear from you. Please call the department’s Wildlife and Heritage Service at 410-260-8540.
### GARRETT COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCIDENT COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>US Route 219 Accident</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* BROADFORD LAKE</td>
<td>MD Route 135 at Mt. Lake Park</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* DEEP CREEK LAKE</td>
<td>US Route 219, Mchinery</td>
<td>3900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* HERRINGTON MANOR LAKE</td>
<td>US Route 219 five miles north of Oakland</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* NEW GERMANY LAKE</td>
<td>I-68, Exit 22 six miles south of Grantsville</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PINEY RESERVOIR</td>
<td>US Route 40 Alt. north on Piney Run Road east of Grantsville</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLEASANT VALLEY LAKE</td>
<td>MD Route 495 twelve miles south of Grantsville</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* JENNINGS RANDOLPH LAKE</td>
<td>MD Route 135 south on Mt. Zion Road five miles from Kitzmiller on West Virginia Route 46</td>
<td>952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* SAVAGE RESERVOIR</td>
<td>MD Route 135 on Savage River Road</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* YOUGHIOGHEY RESERVOIR</td>
<td>MD Route 42 two miles north of Friendsville</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HARFORD COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BYNUM RUN COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>MD Route 22 at Bel Air</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* CONOWINGO RESERVOIR</td>
<td>Broad Creek Landing and Glen Cove Marine—Darlington, MD</td>
<td>4000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUBLIN DELL COMMUNITY PARK</td>
<td>MD Route 136 in Dublin</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOREST BRANCH PARK</td>
<td>Joppatowne, Foster Branch Road</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOREST HILL COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>MD Route 23 at Forest Hill</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HOWARD COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* CENTENNIAL LAKE</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE ELKHORN</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUILFORD PARK POND</td>
<td>MD Route 32 off Interstate 95</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE KITTIMAUDI</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILDE LAKE</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>22</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### KENT COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MILLINGTON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PONDS (4)</td>
<td>Massey Delaware Line Road, east of Massey—telephone 410-928-3650 for permission</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SASSAFRAS NRMA POND</td>
<td>Kennedyville</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* URIEVILLE COMMUNITY LAKE</td>
<td>MD Route 213 north of Chestertown</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLOPPER LAKE</td>
<td>within Seneca State Park</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* DUCKETT RESERVOIR</td>
<td>MD Route 198 and US Route 29 Burtonsville</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINGS COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>US Route 355 and MD Route 121 Clarksburg</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE FRANK</td>
<td>MD Route 115 near Norbeck</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE NEEDWOOD</td>
<td>MD Route 115 near Norbeck</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* LITTLE SENECA LAKE</td>
<td>near Boyds</td>
<td>505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARK POND</td>
<td>1120 Jackson Road, Silver Spring</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PINE LAKE</td>
<td>MD Route 97 near Wheaton</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* TRIADELPHIA RESERVOIR</td>
<td>off MD Route 650 near Brighton Temporarily closed to fishing and boating keep up to date on the closure by checking <a href="http://www.wsswasser.com/brighton">www.wsswasser.com/brighton</a>.</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALLENS POND</td>
<td>MD Route 197 near Bowie</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOWIE TOWN CENTER POND</td>
<td>off Mitchelville Road, Bowie</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEDARVILLE POND</td>
<td>off Cedarville Road in Cedarville State Forest</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COSCA LAKE</td>
<td>Thrift Road south of Clinton</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUCK POND</td>
<td>US Route 193 and Adelphi Road in University Hills Park</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR BRIDGE NATURAL AREA POND</td>
<td>Governor Bridge Rd, Bowie</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREENBELT LAKE</td>
<td>off Crescent Road in Greenbelt Park</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE ARTEMESIA</td>
<td>Branchville Road, Berwyn Heights</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAUREL LAKE</td>
<td>Route 1 and Cherry Lane, Laurel</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELWOOD COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>MD Route 223, Woodyard Road between MD Routes 4 and 5</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERKLE PONDS</td>
<td>Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary, off Fenno Road</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILLTOWN LANDING POND</td>
<td>Patuxent River Park, off Milltown Landing Road</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOLHOUSE POND</td>
<td>across from County Administration Building in Upper Marlboro</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUCKER POND</td>
<td>Tucker Road near Oxon Hill</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* TUCKAHOE LAKE</td>
<td>Rt.404 east to Rt. 480 to Ewell Rd to Crouse Mill Rd.</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* UNICORN LAKE</td>
<td>MD Route 313 south of Millington</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* WYE MILLS COMMUNITY LAKE</td>
<td>MD Route 662 south of US Route 50</td>
<td>50</td>
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### ST. MARY’S COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* ST. MARY’S LAKE</td>
<td>MD Route 5, Calloway</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### WASHINGTON COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* BIG POOL</td>
<td>I-70, exit 12 MD Route 56 east of Fort Frederick State Park</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* BLAIRS VALLEY LAKE</td>
<td>Blair's Valley Road north of Clear Spring</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROWNSVILLE COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>MD Route 67 at Brownsville</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* GREENBRIER LAKE</td>
<td>Greenbrier State Park, US Route 40 near Hagerstown</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDIAN SPRINGS COMMUNITY POND</td>
<td>Moorsville Road eight miles west of Clear Spring</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITTLE POOL</td>
<td>off MD Route 615 east of Hancock</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### WICOMICO COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* JOHNSONS LAKE</td>
<td>Isabella Street at US Route 50 to Lake Street</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* LEONARDS MILL LAKE</td>
<td>U.S Route 13 north of Salisbury</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POWELLVILLE POND</td>
<td>MD Route 354 in Powellville</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHUMAKER LAKE</td>
<td>MD Route 12 in Salisbury</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### WORCESTER COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIG MILLS LAKE</td>
<td>Big Mills Road west of MD Route 12</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOORE’S POND</td>
<td>US Route 13 near Pocomoke City</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following boundaries are designated as dividing lines for tidal and nontidal waters. These boundary lines identify whether a nontidal fishing license or Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Fishing license is required. If you are fishing upstream of the location listed, nontidal fishing regulations apply. If you are fishing downstream of the location listed, tidal regulations apply.

Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties
- Anacostia River:
  a) Northeast Branch Bridge at northbound lane of Alternate Route 1 Bladensburg Road.
  b) Northwest Branch Bridge at southbound lane of Rhode Island Avenue.
- Furnace Branch—MD Route 2.
- Patuxent River:
  a) Mainstem: bridge on MD Route 214.
  b) Lyons Creek: MD Route 4.
  c) Stocketts Run: confluence with the river.
  d) Rock Run: confluence with the river.
  e) Ferry Branch: confluence with the river.
- Magothy River—Catherine Avenue.
- Marley Creek—MD Route 10.
- Severn River—bridge on MD Route 3.
- South River and its tributaries:
  a) North River: Rutland Road.
  b) Bacon Ridge Branch: Chesterfield Road.
  c) Beards Creek: MD Route 214.
  d) Broad Creek: Harry S. Truman Parkway.

Baltimore County
- Big Gunpowder Falls—three-fourths of a mile south of MD Route 7, the Old Philadelphia Road at the B&O Railroad Bridge.
- Little Gunpowder Falls—three-fourths of a mile south of MD Route 7, the Old Philadelphia Road at the B&O Railroad Bridge.
- Parks Creek—MD Route 7.
- rustic lane of MD Route 7.
- Rock Run—confluence with the Susquehanna River.
- Little Elk Creek—US Route 40.
- Mill Creek—Old Elk Neck Road.
- North East River—MD Route 7.
- Neck Branch. This is the confluence of McFadden Branch and the confluence of McFadden Branch and the Susquehanna River, approximately where the Chester River empties into the Susquehanna River.
- Rock Run—confluence with the Susquehanna River.

Baltimore and Howard counties
- Patapsco River—B&O viaduct at Relay.

Calvert County
- Battle Creek—bridge about two miles east of Bowens (Sixes Road).
- Fishing Creek—one and one-half miles upstream from the mouth of the creek at Chesapeake Beach.
- Hall’s Creek—bridge on MD Route 4.
- Hellen Creek—Mill Branch Road, near Solomons.
- Hunting Creek—bridge on MD Route 263 about 100 yards west of MD Route 4.
- Island Creek—Ross Road, near Brooms Island.
- Lyon’s Creek—bridge on MD Route 4.
- Mills Creek—MD Route 760.
- Parkers Creek—MD Route 765.
- Plum Point Creek—bridge on MD Route 263.
- Quaker Swamp—MD Routes 2/4.
- St. Johns Creek—MD Route 4.
- St. Leonard’s Creek—Parran Road.
- Chapel Branch—MD Route 313 near Piney Grove Church.
- Choptank River—bypass on MD Route 313 on the outskirts of Greensboro.
- Fowling Creek—wooden bridge on Stratum Road about one mile below MD Route 16.
- Hunting Creek—MD Route 331.
- Marshyhope Creek—at its confluence with Faulkner Branch.
- Mill Creek—MD Route 16.
- Tuckahoe Creek—abandoned stone railroad bridge upstream of MD Route 404.
- Watts Creek—bridge on American Legion Road.

Caroline County
- Big Elk Creek—MD Route 213.
- Bohemia River—Telegraph Road.
- Happy Valley Branch—confluence with Susquehanna River.
- Little Elk Creek—US Route 40.
- Mill Creek—Old Elk Neck Road.
- North East River—MD Route 7.
- Octoraro Creek—bridge on US Route 222.
- Principio Creek—Amtrak crossing below MD Route 7.
- Rock Run—confluence with the Susquehanna River.

c) Spice Creek: MD Route 382, Croom Road.

Cecil County
- Big Elk Creek—MD Route 213.
- Bohemia River—Telegraph Road.
- Happy Valley Branch—confluence with Susquehanna River.
- Little Elk Creek—US Route 40.
- Mill Creek—Old Elk Neck Road.
- North East River—MD Route 7.
- Octoraro Creek—bridge on US Route 222.
- Principio Creek—Amtrak crossing below MD Route 7.
- Rock Run—confluence with the Susquehanna River.

Charles, Montgomery and Prince George’s counties
- Henson Run—bridge on Old Broad Creek Road.
- Hoghole Run—MD Route 6.
- Mattawoman Creek—bridge on MD Route 223.
- Nanjemoy Creek and its tributaries:
  a) Mainstem: MD Route 6.
  b) Mill Run (Burgess Creek): MD Route 6.
  c) Hill Top Fork: MD Route 6.
  d) Wards Run: MD Route 6.
- Oxon Creek (Run)—MD Route 210.
- Patuxent River and its tributaries:
  a) Swanson Creek: MD Route 381.
  b) Mataponi Creek: St. Thomas Church Road.
  c) Spice Creek: MD Route 382, Croom Road.
- d) Full Mill Branch: MD Route 382, Croom Road.
- e) Black Swamp Creek: MD Route 382, Croom Road.
- Piscataway Creek—bridge on MD Route 224 (Livingston Road).
- Potomac River—Little Falls at man-made dam.
- St. Johns Creek—MD Route 4.
- Wicomico River—Allens Fresh, bridge on MD Route 234.

Dorchester County
- Chicamomico River—US Route 50.
- Tuckahoe Creek—abandoned stone railroad bridge upstream of MD Route 404.
- Watts Creek—bridge on American Legion Road.

Harford County
- Bynum Run—Old Philadelphia Road Bridge on MD Route 7.
- Deer Creek—railroad bridge located at the mouth of Deer Creek.
- Gray’s Run—CSX Railroad crossing upstream of US Route 40.
- James Run—Old Philadelphia Road Bridge on MD Route 7.
- Winter’s Run—dam located one half mile south of MD Route 7, the Old Philadelphia Road.

Kent and Queen Anne’s counties
- Chester River—500 yards upstream from the Pennsylvania Railroad Bridge at Millington at the point where the Cypress Branch empties into the Chester River.
- Herring Branch—MD Route 299.
- Morgan Creek—Wallis Road.
- Red Lion Branch—at its confluence with the Chester River.
- Sassafras River—MD Route 299.
- Unicorn Branch—U.S. Geological Survey weir just east of MD Route 313.
- Wye East River—Wye Mills Lake Dam.

St. Mary’s County
- Budds Creek—MD Route 234.
- Chaptico Run—Chaptico Bridge on MD Route 234.
- Dyname Run—MD Route 242.
- Eastern Branch—MD Route 5.
- Gilbert Swamp Run—MD Route 234.
TIDAL / NONTIDAL DIVIDING LINES

- Great Mills Run—bridge on MD Route 5.
- McIntosh Run—MD Route 5.
- Park Hall Run—MD Route 5.
- St. Clements Creek—MD Route 234 bridge at town of Clements.
- Tomakokin Creek—MD Route 470.
- Town Run—bridge on MD Route 5.

Susquehanna River
- Conowingo Dam—at US Route 1.

Wicomico and Worcester counties
- Barren Creek—US Route 50 Bridge
- Beaverdam Creek—dam just upstream of US Route 13 (Business).
- Nassawango Creek—Furnace Road.
- Pocomoke River—bridge on Whiton Crossing, three miles south of Powellville.
- Wicomico River—Isabella Street in Salisbury.

MARYLAND VOLUNTEER ANGLER SURVEY

Support effective fisheries management by joining the Volunteer Angler Survey
Participation is easy! Visit our website: dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/survey/index.aspx

Find Maryland Fishing Spots
More than 500 locations...and counting!

gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/publicfishingaccess/index.html
The introduction of invasive and non-native species can cause irreversible changes in the food web. Several invasive species of concern are listed below. For information on other invasive and non-native species, and to see a list of species prohibited from transport, visit dnr.maryland.gov/invasives. To report the illegal transport or unauthorized introduction of invasive species, contact the Natural Resources Police—800-628-9944.

**Snakehead**

It is against Maryland, Virginia, and federal laws to possess, import, or transport live northern snakehead.

If you catch a snakehead and want to keep it, you must immediately kill the fish by removing its head, gutting it or removing its gill arches. Anglers are encouraged to catch and keep northern snakeheads year round. There is no minimum size or creel limit for snakeheads.

The Department of Natural Resources asks anglers to report snakeheads caught outside of the Potomac River and its tributaries or upstream of Great Falls. Send catch information to fishingreports.dnr@maryland.gov or call 410-260-8300 to help the department track the range of the species.

If you catch a northern snakehead with a blue or red tag, please report the tag number and the location, date and time of day when the fish was caught to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 800-448-8322.

**Blue and Flathead Catfish**

Blue and flathead catfish are invasive species that have spread rapidly throughout the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. These catfish have few natural predators, eat a wide variety of native fish and shellfish, and may cause ecological harm.

It is illegal to move live blue or flathead catfish from one body of water to another and is punishable by a fine of up to $2,500. Anglers are encouraged to catch and keep blue and flathead catfish year round. There is no minimum size or creel limit for these catfish.

**Zebra Mussels**

Zebra mussels are an aggressive invasive species and reproduce at a very prolific rate, out-competing native species for needed resources. These mussels quickly overtake and cover all available areas to such an extent that they can clog water intake structures, boats, moorings, ropes, fishing lines, traps, and even dams and power plants. Zebra mussels are established from the Susquehanna River and Flats to the upper Bay. Additionally, The Department of Natural Resources recently confirmed the presence of zebra mussels in tributaries of the upper Western Shore near Middle River in Baltimore County.

More information on zebra mussels is available at dnr.maryland.gov/invasives/pages/zebra_mussels.aspx, including a fact sheet and reporting form. The department asks citizens, to report any suspected sightings to invasivemussels.dnr@maryland.gov.

**INVASIVE CATFISH IDENTIFICATION**

Catfish Illustrations by Duane Raver

**Blue Catfish**
Anal fin squared with 30 to 36 fin rays

**Flathead Catfish**
Projecting lower jaw and a slightly notched tail

**Channel Catfish**
Anal fin with rounded margin and deeply forked tail

**White Catfish**
Stocky body with large head, anal fin with rounded margin and moderately forked tail

**NON-INVASIVE CATFISH IDENTIFICATION**

**Photo by Sean Beck**

**Photo by Charles Vinson**

**HARVEST AN INVASIVE FISH AND HELP REDUCE THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES**

Questions on what gear is legal to harvest invasive species? Check out the gear tables in the Sport Fishing Regulations section on pages 16 and 17.
INVASIVE SPECIES

STATE RECORDS FOR INVASIVE SPECIES

- Catfish, Blue — 84 lbs., Ed Jones, 8/13/2012, Near Fort Washington, Potomac River
- Catfish, Flathead — 55 lbs., Vacant
- Northern Snakehead — 19.90 lbs., Andrew D. Fox, 5/24/2018, Indian Head, Mattawoman Creek

To view more state records visit dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/state-records.aspx or go to page 47.

Prevent the spread of harmful species:

**REMOVE**
and dispose of aquatic plants, mud, and debris from your boat, motor, trailer and gear before launching and after haul out.

**DRAIN**
all water from live wells, bilge, bait buckets, coolers, and motor immediately after use.

**DISPOSE**
of all unused bait far away from the water. Immediately remove the heads of crayfish in the Upper and Middle Potomac, Monocacy River and Susquehanna River Basin.

**RINSE**
boat, motor, trailer, tackle, buckets and all gear, including SCUBA gear, with hot or high-pressure water.

**DON’T STOCK**
fish in any waters. The importation, introduction and transport of aquatic species without a permit is prohibited by law.

**DON’T TRANSFER**
live fish from one area to another.

**DON’T RELEASE**
aquarium fish into the wild.

Maryland’s MOST UNWANTED

Non-native species can invade our waters and push out native species leading to negative impacts on water quality, fish habitat, and recreation.

See video in action at cleanwayfuelfill.com

KEEP FUEL IN THE TANK AND OUT OF OUR WATERS

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- SPILL-FREE REFUELING

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order direct at cleanwayfuelfill.com
### It is Illegal:
- To possess any cut up or filleted striped bass at any time aboard any boat on the tidal waters of Maryland. Striped bass must be landed whole.
- To use more than two hooks or two sets of hooks for each rod or line. Artificial lures or plugs with multiple hooks are considered 1 set of hooks.
- To use eels as bait while fishing for striped bass with hook and line from Dec. 16–May 15, inclusive, in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries.
- To cull striped bass.

### STRIPED BASS

**BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR TAGGED FISH!**
The success of tagging studies relies on anglers like you. If you catch a tagged fish, please follow the instructions printed on the tag, or call Fishing and Boating Services at 800-688-3467. Please record the tag number, capture date, fishing location, and total length.

### INTERACTIVE MAP OF REGULATIONS
Visit [gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/stripedbass/](gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/stripedbass/) to view a live interactive map of striped bass regulations.

### Chesapeake Bay and Tidal Tributaries
(excluding the Susquehanna Flats, Lower Susquehanna River and Northeast River)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Fishing Locations Allowed</th>
<th>Creel and Size Limits</th>
<th>Regulations</th>
<th>Restrictions and Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Jan. 1–Feb. 28| All Maryland Chesapeake Bay waters and the Potomac River are open to catch and release fishing only | No harvest            | Catch and release only       | • Directed catch and release of striped bass in the Potomac requires barbless hooks.  
• Eels may not be used as bait.                                                      |
| SPRING CATCH AND RELEASE SEASON March 1–April 19| Chesapeake Bay from the Brewerton Channel to the Virginia line including Tangier and Pocomoke Sounds. | No harvest            |                              | • Slinger (trailing) hooks are prohibited.  
• Barbless hooks are required when trolling.  
• Non-offset circle hooks or J hooks with a gap of less than ½ inch are required when using natural bait.  
• No more than 6 lines may be employed while trolling regardless of the number of anglers on board.  
• These restrictions apply in all open catch and release areas from March 1 until 5:00 a.m., April 20.  
• Spawning rivers and the Upper Bay spawning area are off limits until June 1 to striped bass fishing.  
• Eels may not be used as bait.  
• See maps at: [gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/stripedbass/](gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/stripedbass/) |
| SPRING TROPHY SEASON April 20–May 15 | Chesapeake Bay from Brewerton Channel to the MD-VA Line, excluding all bays, sounds, tributaries, creeks and rivers, except Tangier Sound and Pocomoke Sound | 1 fish per person per day Minimum size 35 inches |                              | • Eels may not be used as bait.  
• See maps at: [gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/stripedbass/](gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/stripedbass/) |
| May 16–May 31 | Chesapeake Bay downstream from a line drawn from the south corner of Hart-Miller Island Dike to the end of MD Route 21 at Tolicsaster and south to the MD/VA line, excluding all bays, sounds, tributaries, creeks and rivers. EXCEPT: Tangier Sound and Pocomoke Sound; Chester River and its tributaries downstream of a line drawn from Hail Point to Long Point to Ferry Point; Patuxent River and its tributaries downstream of a line drawn from Point Patience to the west point of land at the entrance of Little Kingston Creek; and Choptank River and its tributaries downstream of a line drawn from Holland Point to a point of land at the west entrance of Chapel Creek are open. | 2 fish per person per day between 19-28 inches OR 1 fish between 19-28 inches and 1 fish over 28 inches | See Interactive Map at: [gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/stripedbass/](gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/stripedbass/)  
Anglers must use non-offset circle hooks when live-lining or chumming; Anglers must use circle hooks or “J” hooks when using fish, crabs or worms as bait, or when using processed baits. | |
| Summer/Fall Season June 1–Dec. 15 | All Maryland Chesapeake Bay waters and tributaries open to fishing | 2 fish per person per day between 19-28 inches OR 1 fish between 19-28 inches and 1 fish over 28 inches | See Interactive Map at: [gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/stripedbass/](gisapps.dnr.state.md.us/stripedbass/)  
Anglers must use non-offset circle hooks when live-lining or chumming; Anglers must use circle hooks or “J” hooks when using fish, crabs or worms as bait, or when using processed baits. | |
| Dec. 16–Dec. 31 | Catch and Release only                                                                 |                       |                              | |

Striped bass may not be caught, harassed or possessed in the Exclusive Economic Zone, which stretches from 3–200 miles off the coast.
### SUSQUEHANNA FLATS, LOWER SUSQUEHANNA RIVER AND NORTHEAST RIVER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>FISHING LOCATIONS ALLOWED</th>
<th>CREEL AND SIZE LIMITS</th>
<th>REGULATIONS</th>
<th>RESTRICTIONS AND REMARKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEC 16–MAY 3</td>
<td>Susquehanna Flats, upstream of a line from Sandy Point to Turkey Point and the Susquehanna River downstream from a line connecting the Susquehanna State Park boat ramp at Lapidum to Twin Rocks to Tomes Wharf in Port Deposit; and the Northeast River</td>
<td>Catch and Release only</td>
<td>• Stinger hooks are prohibited.</td>
<td>• No more than six lines per boat are allowed when trolling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Barbless hooks are required when trolling.</td>
<td>• Eels may not be used as bait.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 4–MAY 15</td>
<td>Susquehanna Flats closed to striped bass fishing</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>Eels may not be used as bait</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Anglers must use <strong>non-offset circle hooks</strong> when live-lining or chumming.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Anglers must use circle hooks or “J” hooks when using fish, crabs or worms as bait, or when using processed baits.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 16–MAY 31</td>
<td>Susquehanna Flats reopen to striped bass fishing</td>
<td>1 fish per person per day between 19–26 inches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE 1–DEC. 15</td>
<td>Susquehanna Flats and all Bay waters including tributaries open to striped bass fishing</td>
<td>2 fish per person per day between 19–28 inches OR 1 fish between 19–26 inches and 1 fish over 28 inches</td>
<td>Anglers must use <strong>non-offset circle hooks</strong> when live-lining or chumming.</td>
<td>Anglers must use circle hooks or “J” hooks when using fish, crabs or worms as bait, or when using processed baits.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ATLANTIC OCEAN, COASTAL BAYS AND THEIR TRIBUTARIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>FISHING LOCATIONS ALLOWED</th>
<th>CREEL AND SIZE LIMITS</th>
<th>REGULATIONS</th>
<th>RESTRICTIONS AND REMARKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JAN. 1–DEC. 31</td>
<td>No area restrictions in state waters</td>
<td>2 fish per person per day. Must be between 28 inches and 36 inches, inclusive, or greater than or equal to 44 inches</td>
<td>Striped bass may not be caught, harassed or possessed in the Exclusive Economic Zone, which stretches from 3–200 miles off the coast.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RESERVOIRS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>FISHING LOCATIONS ALLOWED</th>
<th>CREEL AND SIZE LIMITS</th>
<th>REGULATIONS</th>
<th>RESTRICTIONS AND REMARKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RESERVOIRS</td>
<td>Broadford Lake, Conowingo Reservoir, Jennings Randolph Reservoir, Liberty Reservoir, Loch Raven Reservoir, Piney Run Reservoir, Prettyboy Reservoir, Rocky Gorge Reservoir, and Tridelphia Reservoir.</td>
<td>16 inch minimum size; 2 fish per person per day—only 1 of those fish may be larger than 30 inches</td>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Circle Hooks

- Non-offset circle hooks are easier to unhook from fish
- Non-offset circle hooks lead to less injuries to the fish when compared to j-hook styles
- Commercial and recreational anglers have used circle hooks successfully for years

**Note:** The Department advises that anglers use circle hooks of B/0 or larger, to reduce the chance of deep-hooking.

[Find Licensed Charter Boats and Fishing Guides](dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/charters/map.aspx)

[Find Licensed Charter Boats and Fishing Guides](dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/charters/map.aspx)
Maryland Guide to Fishing and Crabbing 2019

BLUE CRABS—CHESAPEAKE BAY AND ITS TIDAL TRIBUTARIES

Crabbing License/Registration
See page 13.

Season
April 1–Dec 15.

Time of Day Restrictions
Rivers, creeks and tributaries:
• April and Oct through Dec. 15—one half hour after sunrise to sunset.
• May through Sept—one half hour before sunrise to sunset.

Chesapeake Bay Mainstem:
• April and October through Dec. 15—one half hour after sunrise to 5 p.m.
• May through September—one half hour before sunrise to 5 p.m.

Using properly registered crab pots on private property, dip nets or handlines is permitted 24 hours a day.

Day of Week Restrictions
No recreational crabbing is allowed on Wednesdays except:
• When using crab pots from private property;
• When using handlines or dip nets;
• During a week when a state or federal holiday falls on a Wednesday or Thursday.

Minimum Size Limits
(measured from tip to tip of spikes)
Male hard crab:
• April 1–July 14—5 inches
• July 15–Dec 15—5¼ inches

Male peeler crab:
• April 1–July 14—3¼ inches
• July 15–Dec 15—3½ inches

Soft crab:
• April 1–Dec 15—3½ inches

Daily Creel/Possession Limits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LICENSE STATUS</th>
<th>LICENSED</th>
<th>UNLICENSED</th>
<th>UNLICENSED INDIVIDUAL</th>
<th>LICENSED INDIVIDUAL</th>
<th>UNLICENSED BOAT</th>
<th>LICENSED BOAT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRAB POTS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY</td>
<td>• From shore</td>
<td>• From unlicensed boat</td>
<td>• From waterfront crab pots</td>
<td>• From shore</td>
<td>• From unlicensed boat</td>
<td>• From waterfront crab pots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TROTLINE</td>
<td>Not Allowed</td>
<td>• Up to 1200 ft*</td>
<td>• Must have floats of the same color, size, shape on each end</td>
<td>• Up to 1200 ft*</td>
<td>• Must have floats of the same color, size, shape on each end</td>
<td>• Up to 1200 ft*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLAPSIBLE TRAPS AND NET RINGS</td>
<td>Not Allowed</td>
<td>• Up to 30 traps, rings or combination of both*</td>
<td>• Must be marked with a buoy bearing your DN Rid unless attached to a pier, wharf or boat</td>
<td>• Up to 30 traps, rings or combination of both*</td>
<td>• Must be marked with a buoy bearing your DN Rid unless attached to a pier, wharf or boat</td>
<td>• Up to 30 traps, rings or combination of both*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEINE</td>
<td>Not Allowed</td>
<td>• Net rings must have a diameter less than or equal to 30 inches</td>
<td>• Net rings must have a diameter less than or equal to 30 inches</td>
<td>• Net rings must have a diameter less than or equal to 30 inches</td>
<td>• Net rings must have a diameter less than or equal to 30 inches</td>
<td>• Net rings must have a diameter less than or equal to 30 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEL POTS</td>
<td>Not Allowed</td>
<td>• Mesh cannot be greater than ¼”</td>
<td>• Cannot exceed 50’ in width and 5’ in height</td>
<td>• Cannot exceed 50’ in width and 5’ in height</td>
<td>• Cannot exceed 50’ in width and 5’ in height</td>
<td>• Cannot exceed 50’ in width and 5’ in height</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Amount of Gear Allowed for Unlicensed and Licensed Recreational Crabbing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LICENSE STATUS</th>
<th>HANDLINES AND DIP NETS</th>
<th>CRAB POTS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY</th>
<th>TROTLINE</th>
<th>COLLAPSIBLE TRAPS AND NET RINGS</th>
<th>SEINE</th>
<th>EEL POTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNLICENSED</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td>A maximum of 2 annually registered crab pots per property regardless of the number of owners or lessees. These pots must be: • Marked with your DN Rid • Set in front of private property within 100 yards of shore • Attached by a line to the property or marked by a buoy or pole and sign • Registered annually</td>
<td>Not Allowed</td>
<td>• Up to 1200 ft*</td>
<td>• Must have floats of the same color, size, shape on each end</td>
<td>• Up to 30 traps, rings or combination of both*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LICENSED</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td>Not Allowed</td>
<td>• Up to 1200 ft*</td>
<td>•Must have floats of the same color, size, shape on each end</td>
<td>• Up to 30 traps, rings or combination of both*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The amount of gear is per boat regardless of the number of licensees or individuals on board.
BLUE CRABS—ATLANTIC OCEAN, COASTAL BAYS AND TRIBUTARIES

Season
April 1–Dec 31.

Harvest Restrictions
• There are no license or registration requirements.
• There are no time of day restrictions.
• The taking of sponge crabs is prohibited.

Minimum Size Limits
(measured from tip to tip of spikes)
• Hard crabs—5 inches.*
• Soft crabs—3½ inches.
• Peeler crabs
  • April 1–July 14—3¼ inches
  • July 15–Dec 31—3½ inches
• Mature female crabs—no minimum size.

Recreational Crabbing Daily Catch Limits
The daily catch limit in the waters of the Coastal Bays of the Atlantic Ocean and their tidal tributaries is:
• One bushel per person.
• Two bushels per boat if two or more individuals are on the boat.

It is Legal
To crab in the Coastal Bays of Maryland’s Atlantic Ocean and coastal tributaries using:
• No more than 600 feet of baited trotline, with floats of the same color, size and shape attached to each end; or
• No more than two 600-foot trotlines if two or more persons are in the boat; or
• Dip nets and any number of handlines; or
• No more than 10 or a combination of 10 collapsible crab traps or crab net rings per person from docks, piers, bridges, boats or shoreline; or
• No more than 25, or a combination of 25, collapsible crab traps or crab net rings, if two or more persons are in a boat.

For waterfront property owners to set a maximum of two crab pots at their property, provided that:
• Pots are marked with the owner’s name and address or DNRid; and
• Crab pots must have two cull rings, one measuring at least 2¾ inches and one at least 2½ inches, located in the exterior side panel or the top panels of the pot.
• Pot cull rings must be closed from April 23–May 31.
• Crab pots must have a turtle excluder device attached to each entrance or funnel in the lower chamber constructed of wire or plastic, rectangular in shape not larger than 1¾ inches high by 4¼ inches long.

TURTLE EXCLUDERS ARE REQUIRED BY LAW
Turtle excluders are required in recreational crab pots in Maryland. These devices prevent terrapins from entering a crab pot without hindering blue crab entry. Without turtle excluders, terrapins can enter crab pots and drown. To get instructions for making your own turtle excluder, visit dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/regulations/crabpot.aspx

BLUE CRAB IDENTIFICATION

SALLY
An immature (adolescent) female blue crab is easily identified as having an inverted “V” or triangular shaped apron and red-tipped claws.

SOOK
A mature (adult) female blue crab identified as having an inverted “U” or bell-shaped apron and red-tipped claws.

JIMMY
A mature male blue crab with a long, narrow, inverted “T” shaped apron and blue-tipped claws.

Steven C. Zinski (www.bluecrab.info) (3)
Maryland has artificial reef sites in both bay and ocean waters. These are collaborative projects between the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the partner organizations of the Maryland Artificial Reef Initiative, and the Ocean City Reef Foundation.

The Maryland Artificial Reef Initiative is a volunteer organization including more than 60 private, state, and federal partners dedicated to preserving, restoring and creating fish habitat in tidewater Maryland. It acts as a funding mechanism under an agreement with the Coastal Conservation Association Maryland using private and corporate donations for reef development.

The Ocean City Reef Foundation works to build reefs off of Ocean City and, in partnership with The Maryland Artificial Reef Initiative, accepts donations as a non-profit 501(c)(3) at ocreefs.org.

For more general information on artificial reef projects and to view the Maryland Artificial Reef Initiative and The Ocean City Reef Foundation reef coordinates, go to dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/reefs/index.aspx.
Maryland residents may harvest oysters and clams for recreational purposes. No license is required.

Refer to maps of Maryland Shellfish Harvesting Areas for information on areas of restricted waters, closures, and coordinates of sanctuaries online via mde.maryland.gov/programs/marylander/fishandshellfish/pages/shellfishmaps.aspx.

You may also call the Maryland Department of the Environment hotline 800-541-1210 to obtain information on conditional closures due to water quality or other environmental issues.

Recreational shellfish regulations for the Potomac River can be found at prfc.us.

It is Illegal
• To take oysters or clams for recreational purposes while aboard a vessel where any person is engaged in commercial oystering or clamming.
• To recreationally harvest oysters or clams within a leased area, harvest reserve area, sanctuary or any other area closed by the state.
• To harvest oysters or clams if you are not a resident of Maryland.*

* However, a nonresident may harvest clams in Worcester County.

Oysters

Season
Oct 1–March 31

Daily Harvest Restrictions
1 bushel/person/day

Time of Day Restrictions
Harvest is only permitted:
• Monday–Friday: Sunrise to 3 p.m.
• Saturday: Sunrise until noon

Gear Restrictions
A person may catch oysters ONLY by:
• Rakes
• Diving (includes SCUBA)
• Hand
• Shaft tongs

Minimum Size Limits
Three inches measured from hinge to bill along the longest part of the shell. You must determine the size of the oysters prior to leaving the location from which they were caught. Any shell and undersized oysters must be returned to the water before you leave the area.

Hard Clams

Daily Harvest Restrictions
250 clams/person/day

Gear Restrictions
Limited to hand-operated gear only, including hand rakes. Mechanical harvesting is not allowed.

Minimum Size Limits
One inch transverse measurement

RANGIA CLAMS

The Rangia clam is often found in Maryland in low salinity water. Many of these areas, especially those within 200 feet of shore, have not been tested or approved by the Maryland Department of the Environment for shellfish harvest, and the consumption of these clams is not recommended.

Rangia clams should not be confused with the better-known hard clam found primarily in the Coastal Bays.

RECYCLE OYSTER SHELLS

Please recycle your oyster shells. You can find information about recycling at: https://oysterrecovery.org/shell-recycling-alliance/

For advertising inquiries, please call (413) 884-1001

Showcase your business!
Federal Highly Migratory Species Permits
Waters three to 200 miles offshore of state coastlines constitute the Exclusive Economic Zone and fall under the jurisdiction of the federal government. If you are fishing in these waters for species such as sharks, tuna, marlin, swordfish or sailfish, the vessel owner must hold a highly migratory species permit from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Call 888-872-8862 or go to hmspermits.noaa.gov to obtain a permit/shark endorsement.

Passengers fishing on the vessel who do not possess a highly migratory species permit or have a state saltwater fishing license must register with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Saltwater Angler registry. Anglers holding state saltwater licenses from Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or U.S. Virgin Islands are required to register.

To register, go to countmyfish.noaa.gov/register.

Landing Requirements
All recreationally landed bluefin tuna, billfish (marlin, sailfish, swordfish and roundscale spearfish), and sharks (except spiny dogfish) must be tagged before being removed from the boat and reported to a reporting station.

A tag is provided for each completed catch card and the angler is required to place this tag around the tail of the fish before removing it from the vessel. Sharks caught from shore must be tagged before removal from the point of landing. Boats cannot be pulled from the water until the tag is in place.

Catch cards and tags are available at the following reporting stations:
- Alltackle, Ocean City (shark tags only)
- Assateague Island National Seashore, Berlin (shark kiosk only)
- Atlantic Tackle, Ocean City
- Bahia Marina, Ocean City
- Buck’s Place, Berlin (shark tags only)
- Department of Natural Resources/Natural Resources Police, Col. Jack Taylor Boat House, Ocean City (after hours kiosk)
- Fisherman’s Marina, Ocean City
- Ocean City Fishing Center, Ocean City
- Ocean Pines Marina, Ocean Pines
- Pines Point Provisions and Seafood, Ocean Pines
- Sunset Marina, Ocean City
- Talbot Street Pier and Marina, Ocean City
- White Marlin Marina, Ocean City
- Catch cards can also be downloaded at dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/coastal/filleting.aspx

For more information on identification of swordfish and billfish, please go to: fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/outreach-and-education/atlantic-swordfish-and-billfish-identification-guide

It is Illegal
- For an angler to sell, barter, or trade sharks or shark parts.
- For an angler to engage in shark finning. All sharks caught by an angler must have heads, tails and fins attached naturally to the carcass through landing.
- To fillet sharks at sea.
- For a highly migratory species angling, charter/headboat, and general category (if participating in a registered Atlantic highly migratory species tournament) permit holder to possess hammerhead sharks or oceanic whitetip sharks simultaneously with billfish, tunas, or swordfish.
- Shark regulations may be subject to change in 2019.

Gear Restrictions
Anglers may use only handlines or rod and reel. Circle hooks are required in federal waters.
Sharks Caught Fishing in state Waters (Listed species represent a sampling which may be encountered)

- **Stocky**  
- **Skinny**

Shark illustrations by Diane Rome Peebles

Source: Guide to Sharks, Tunas and Billfishes of the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico by Rhode Island Sea Grant and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries. To learn more about coastal Sharks in Maryland go to [dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/coastal/sharkfacts.aspx](dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/coastal/sharkfacts.aspx)

### Atlantic Sharpnose Shark
- **No Interdorsal Ridge**
- **Distinguishing features**
  - White spots
  - Second dorsal fin begins above middle of anal fin
  - Long labial furrows around corners of mouth
- **Status**
  - Legal

### Blacktip Shark
- **No Interdorsal Ridge**
- **Distinguishing features**
  - Anal fin white and other fins with black tips (fades with age)
  - First dorsal begins above axil of pectoral
- **Status**
  - Legal

### Bull Shark
- **No Interdorsal Ridge**
- **Distinguishing features**
  - First dorsal fin large, triangular, rearward sloping, originating over or slightly behind pectoral insertion
- **Status**
  - Legal

### Dusky Shark
- **Interdorsal Ridge**
- **Distinguishing features**
  - First dorsal sloping and begins behind pectoral fin
  - Second dorsal fin with free tip length rarely more than twice fin height
- **Status**
  - PROHIBITED

### Sandbar Shark
- **Interdorsal Ridge**
- **Distinguishing features**
  - First dorsal fin tall, triangular, starts over or slightly before pectoral fin
  - Large, broad pectoral fins
- **Status**
  - PROHIBITED

### Scalloped Hammerhead
- **No Interdorsal Ridge**
- **Distinguishing features**
  - Hammer marked by prominent indentation at midline
  - Pelvic fins with straight rear margins
- **Status**
  - Legal

### Smooth Dogfish
- **Interdorsal Ridge**
- **Distinguishing features**
  - Dorsal fins nearly equal in size
  - Oval shaped eyes
  - Spiracles behind eyes
- **Status**
  - Legal

### Blacktip Shark
- **No Interdorsal Ridge**
- **Distinguishing features**
  - Anal fin white and other fins with black tips (fades with age)
  - First dorsal begins above axil of pectoral
- **Status**
  - Legal

### Bull Shark
- **No Interdorsal Ridge**
- **Distinguishing features**
  - First dorsal fin large, triangular, rearward sloping, originating over or slightly behind pectoral insertion
- **Status**
  - Legal

### Sand Tiger Shark
- **No Interdorsal Ridge**
- **Distinguishing features**
  - Dorsal fins nearly equal in size
  - Small eyes
  - Large teeth sticking out of the mouth
- **Status**
  - PROHIBITED

### Spiny Dogfish
- **Weak Interdorsal Ridge**
- **Distinguishing features**
  - Dorsal spines
  - No anal fin
  - Body usually with white spots
- **Status**
  - Legal

### KEY CATCH AND RELEASE POINTS THAT MAXIMIZE SHARK SURVIVAL
- Release sharks in the water
- Don’t drag them onto the sand
- Don’t sit on them
- Don’t hold their jaws open
- Don’t place hands in the gills
- Minimize fight times by using the appropriate gear including circle hooks
- Know how to identify legal and prohibited species, ”If you don’t know let it go”
- Don’t gaff a shark that is going to be released
- Have a release plan and make sure everyone knows their role
- Cut the line, minimize trailing gear or use a dehooker
Recreational fishing offers opportunities for families and friends to spend quality time together, enjoying the abundant natural resources Maryland has to offer. Fishing Maryland is Maryland’s recreational fishing award program and is a fun way to explore Maryland’s affordable, accessible, diverse and high quality fishing opportunities.

**Components:**
- **Species Award (includes catch and release)**—Any angler fishing legally in Maryland may catch and report a trophy sized fish by landing any of more than 60 eligible species in three categories at or above a certain minimum size. If you catch a fish that meets or exceeds the official award size, simply lay the fish on a tape measure and photograph so that the species and size can be verified. Submit your catch through our online registration process. Once your catch is verified, you will receive your award certificate within 45 days.
- **Invasive Species Award**—Recognizes anglers for reporting their harvest of certain eligible invasive fish species. “Invasive” describes a species that, when introduced into an ecosystem, aggressively establishes itself and has the potential to negatively impact native plants, animals, or habitat. Currently there are three invasive fish species which naturally reproduce or migrate into Maryland waters and are eligible for the Invasive Species Award: blue catfish, northern snakehead and flathead catfish. Fish must be kept to qualify.
- **Milestone Award**—Milestone awards recognize those skillful anglers who catch multiple species, each milestone is marked with a certificate and a corresponding sticker. Starting in 2019, eligible catches from different calendar years will count towards each of three established milestones.
- **Governor’s Striped Bass Conservation Award**—In addition to a Species Award, those who catch and release an award sized striped bass during the open season will be recognized with a Governor’s Striped Bass Conservation Award at the end of the fishing season. The award recognizes any recreational angler who releases alive a striped bass catch of 40 inches or more while fishing Maryland waters during the open season.

For more information on FishMaryland, including rules and registration go to—[dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/challenge/rules.aspx.](dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/challenge/rules.aspx)
## STATE RECORDS

**STATE RECORDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Angler Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albacore (longfin)</td>
<td>74 lbs</td>
<td>Victor W. Gardner II</td>
<td>7/17/2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Cod</td>
<td>24 lbs</td>
<td>Fred Brungart</td>
<td>3/22/2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Spadefish</td>
<td>11 lbs, 6.5 oz</td>
<td>Noel Loho</td>
<td>9/2/2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Seabass</td>
<td>8 lbs</td>
<td>Hayward Madison</td>
<td>6/1/1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluefish</td>
<td>23 lbs, 8 oz</td>
<td>Lillian Morris</td>
<td>10/20/1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cobia</td>
<td>94.6 lbs</td>
<td>Emma Zapdell</td>
<td>6/30/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dolphin</td>
<td>67 lbs, 8 oz</td>
<td>Kevin Raylawn</td>
<td>7/21/1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drum, Black</td>
<td>79 lbs</td>
<td>Stanley Byes</td>
<td>9/7/1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drum, Red*</td>
<td>70 lbs</td>
<td>Robert Light</td>
<td>9/24/1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>False Albacore</td>
<td>22 lbs, 8 oz</td>
<td>Kevin Scheekells</td>
<td>6/25/1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flounder, Summer</td>
<td>17 lbs</td>
<td>Anthony Vacari</td>
<td>10/3/1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flounder, Winter</td>
<td>5 lbs, 2 oz</td>
<td>Kevin Welley</td>
<td>6/23/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray Triggerfish</td>
<td>5 lbs, 2 oz</td>
<td>Wayne Gower</td>
<td>10/31/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King Mackerel</td>
<td>47 lbs</td>
<td>Gerald Kauffman</td>
<td>10/18/1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingfish</td>
<td>2 lbs, 8 oz</td>
<td>Grace Walker</td>
<td>10/1/1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin, Blue</td>
<td>1,002 lbs</td>
<td>Robert Ferris</td>
<td>7/9/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porgy</td>
<td>6 lbs, 4 oz</td>
<td>Paar Hopple</td>
<td>7/4/1966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark, Black Tip</td>
<td>193 lbs</td>
<td>Brian Zyk</td>
<td>8/4/1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark, Blue</td>
<td>280 lbs</td>
<td>Martin Wtman</td>
<td>9/13/1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark, Dogfish, Smooth</td>
<td>15 lbs, 5 oz</td>
<td>Gregg Bacchien</td>
<td>5/22/1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark, Dogfish, Spiny</td>
<td>11 lbs, 8 oz</td>
<td>Neyley Sampson</td>
<td>5/17/1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark, Dusky*</td>
<td>469 lbs</td>
<td>Jim Liberto</td>
<td>7/21/1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark, Great White</td>
<td>467 lbs</td>
<td>Jack Holmes</td>
<td>6/11/1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark, Hammerhead, Scallop</td>
<td>266 lbs, 8.5 oz</td>
<td>Scott Cuccia</td>
<td>8/8/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark, Striped Bass</td>
<td>876 lbs</td>
<td>Jim Hughes</td>
<td>8/8/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark, Sand Tiger*</td>
<td>334 lbs</td>
<td>Bill Lidner</td>
<td>9/8/1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark, Sandbar*</td>
<td>235 lbs</td>
<td>Mark Sampson</td>
<td>7/8/1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark, Tigger*</td>
<td>642 lbs</td>
<td>Brent Alleplee</td>
<td>6/19/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark, Tiger*</td>
<td>1,210 lbs</td>
<td>Grace Cazaizk</td>
<td>7/9/1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheepshead</td>
<td>18.0 lbs</td>
<td>Robert Martin</td>
<td>9/22/1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowy Grouper</td>
<td>66 lbs</td>
<td>Gregory Benn</td>
<td>7/30/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spotted Seatrout</td>
<td>13 lbs</td>
<td>Jack Miler</td>
<td>8/21/1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped Bass</td>
<td>57.2 lbs</td>
<td>Gary Smith</td>
<td>5/6/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tautog</td>
<td>28.6 lbs</td>
<td>Kenneth Westerfeld</td>
<td>7/2/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tautog, Blueine</td>
<td>20 lbs</td>
<td>Robert Parcell</td>
<td>9/21/1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tilefish, Golden</td>
<td>62 lbs</td>
<td>Steve Doctor</td>
<td>10/22/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuna, Bigeye</td>
<td>375 lbs, 8 oz</td>
<td>Cecil Browne</td>
<td>8/26/1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuna, Blackfin</td>
<td>32 lbs</td>
<td>Bob Zang</td>
<td>9/20/1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuna, Bluefin</td>
<td>620 lbs</td>
<td>James Daniels, IV</td>
<td>8/8/1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuna, Yellowfin*</td>
<td>235.6 lbs</td>
<td>Mark Bennetti</td>
<td>9/22/2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wahoo</td>
<td>131 lbs</td>
<td>John Schaar</td>
<td>6/30/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weakfish</td>
<td>16 lbs</td>
<td>Donald Cannon</td>
<td>9/11/1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Hake</td>
<td>16 lbs, 11.36 oz</td>
<td>Brian Gay</td>
<td>9/16/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Perch</td>
<td>17.1 lbs</td>
<td>Gary Brimberon</td>
<td>3/7/1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Perch*</td>
<td>1.65 lbs</td>
<td>Ryan Timmons</td>
<td>7/30/2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CHESAPEAKE BAY DIVISION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Angler Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Spadefish</td>
<td>10 lbs</td>
<td>Charlie Barron</td>
<td>7/15/2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluefish</td>
<td>22 lbs</td>
<td>Ronald Raffo</td>
<td>5/31/1986</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Not currently accepting new state records for this species due to regulations.*

### SPORT FISH STATE RECORDS

**STATE RECORDS**

All possible state record fish will be reviewed under the Official FishMaryland Rules. For State Records Rules and Procedures, go to: [dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/challenge/staterecordrules.aspx](http://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/challenge/staterecordrules.aspx)

### RULES AND PROCEDURES

The department maintains sport fish state records and awards a plaque to an angler whose catch exceeds the current state record or establishes a new species category. Positive identification of the species of fish is mandatory for consideration of state record applications. The catch must be inspected in person by a department fisheries biologist. Immense fish in ice water until it can be weighed in order to preserve the weight.

**Call 443-569-1398 or 410-260-8300 to report a potential state record catch. You must submit a state record application within two weeks of the date you catch the fish.**

State record fish are determined by weight. Most fishing tackle shops do not have certified scales, so call ahead. Other establishments that sell products by weight such as a grocery, deli or shipping store may have a certified scale and be willing to help.

Except for fish in the invasive division, all fish designated as eligible for the Invasive Division (currently northern snakehead, blue catfish and flathead catfish) can be caught and recorded as a legal recreational fishing gear including rod and reel, bow and spear.

Fish caught from privately-owned fee fishing waters are not eligible for record consideration.

The department reserves the right to investigate the methods used in catching the fish and the accuracy of measuring and weighing. It also reserves the right to reject any application based on the results of the investigation.
MARINE MAMMALS AND SEA TURTLES

MARYLAND’S MARINE MAMMAL AND SEA TURTLE STRANDING
24-HOUR HOTLINE: 800-628-9944

• If calling from outside Maryland, please use:
  • **Live animals**: 410-373-0083 (National Aquarium Animal Program)
  • **Dead animals**: Call or text location and description to 443-758-6607 (Department of Natural Resources Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Program)

• In Maryland call 800-628-9944 to report all (live or dead) stranded sea turtles or marine mammals (including manatees, dolphins, whales, porpoise and seals).

• Do not touch, harass, feed or handle live or dead marine animals. Marine mammals and sea turtles are protected by federal and state laws that specify fines of up to $50,000, imprisonment, and/or vessel confiscation.

• Record your location using latitude/longitude, and a detailed description of your location including landmarks.

• Estimate and note the length, size, color, noticeable body parts, and any movement of the animal.

• Take photos of the animal.

• For more information, visit dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/pages/oxford/stranding.aspx

Sea turtles in Maryland include: Kemp’s Ridley, Loggerhead, Leatherback and Green

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• Searchable
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• Tidal/Nontidal Dividing Lines
• Parking Info
• Boating Info
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