

Share the Experience—*Take Someone Fishing* • APRIL 10 Opening Day Trout Fishing

2021 CONNECTICUT

# FISHING GUIDE

INLAND & MARINE

*YOUR  
SOURCE*

For CT Fishing  
Information



» New Inland  
Regulations for 2021

See page 20

» Marine Fishing  
Regulations

See page 54



**Effective Dec. 1, 2020:** anyone fishing with natural baits (live, dead, or cut) with the intent to catch striped bass MUST be using an inline circle hook. This includes when adding bait to an artificial lure.



Connecticut Department of  
Energy & Environmental Protection

<https://portal.ct.gov/deepfishing>

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# FISHING GUIDE

## INLAND & MARINE

### Contents

#### General Fishing Information

Directory of Services Phone Numbers .....	2
Licenses .....	10
Permits .....	11
National Saltwater Registry Program .....	11
Trophy Fish Award Affidavit .....	12
Trophy Fish Awards.....	13
Bait and Tackle Shops .....	14
Law Enforcement .....	16
Are The Fish I Catch Safe To Eat? .....	17
Aquatic Invasive Species .....	18-19

#### Inland Fisheries

Inland Recreational Fishing Regulations .....	21
Definitions .....	26-27
Disabled Access .....	27
Atlantic Salmon Broodstock Fishery .....	28
Alewives & Blueback Herring.....	28
Neighborhood Fishing Opportunities .....	30
Record Freshwater Fish.....	31
Lakes & Ponds .....	32-41
A Guide to Catchable Freshwater Fish .....	42-43
Rivers & Streams.....	44-52

#### Marine Fisheries

Marine Recreational Fishing Regulations .....	54
Demarcation Between Marine and Inland District.....	55
How to Catch Fish.....	55
Enhanced Opportunities & Volunteer Angler Survey .....	56
Recreational Fishing – Bait Species, Lobster & Crabs...	57
Shoreline Fishing in Coastal State Parks.....	58
Coastal Boat Launches.....	59
State Record Marine Fish .....	60-61
Connecticut Saltwater Fish Identification.....	62
2021 Tide Table .....	64

**Opening Day: April 10th, 2021**

**FAMILY FISHING DAY 2021**

**May 8th—no license required.**

**FREE FISHING LICENSE DAY**

**June 20th and August 14th.**

For updates to the **2021 CT Fishing Guide** and other fishing information see:

<https://portal.ct.gov/deepfishing>



<https://portal.ct.gov/deepfishing>



### INLAND REGULATIONS

#### Easy two-step process:

1. Check the **REGULATION TABLE** (page 21) for general statewide regulations.
2. Look up the waterbody in the **LAKE AND PONDS** (pages 32–41) or **RIVERS AND STREAMS** (pages 44–52) listings to find any special regulations.



### LEARN TO FISH: Free Classes, Page 6

The Connecticut Aquatic Resources Education (CARE) Program will introduce you and your family to the fun of fishing. Expert instruction, hands-on activities and a fishing trip will lead to wonderful time spent outside with your family or friends.



#### ON THE COVER

Family fishing at its best, Leah and Leon Hutchinson with their biggest fish of the day. Leah caught this one and said about her catch: “I was very excited catching that big blue fish and I felt good because I caught a bigger fish than my dad.”

### TO REPORT A WILDLIFE VIOLATION

**Call 1-800-842-HELP**

**24 Hours Toll Free • All Calls Confidential**

CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

# 2021 CONNECTICUT FISHING GUIDE

## INLAND & MARINE

The Connecticut Angler's Guide is published annually by the

**State of Connecticut**  
Governor

### Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

Katie S. Dykes, *Commissioner*  
Mason Trumble, *Deputy Commissioner*

### Bureau of Natural Resources

Rick Jacobson, *Chief*

### Fisheries Division

Pete Aarrestad, *Director*

### Marine Fisheries Program

Justin Davis, *Assistant Director*

### Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106-5127  
<https://portal.ct.gov/deep>



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This Guide is intended to provide a summary of the more important rules and regulations governing sport fishing in Connecticut and to assist in the enjoyment of the angling experience. For legal purposes, the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and the Connecticut General Statutes must be consulted.

**NOTICE:** Some advertisements in this publication may state that "No sales tax" is due. This is because the retailer is located in a state that does not impose sales or use tax, and the retailer is not registered to collect Connecticut sales and use taxes. While you may not have to pay sales tax in the state where you bought the goods or services, you must pay Connecticut use tax on taxable goods or services purchased for use in Connecticut. For more information, see the Department of Revenue Services' Informational Publication 2020(10), Q&A on the Connecticut Individual Use Tax: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DRS/Publications/pubsip/2020/IIP-2020-10.pdf>

### Directory of Services

For additional information the following DEEP offices may be contacted from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please note that the DEEP – Licensing and Revenue Permit Sales Office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (closes at noon before major holidays and may close early during periods of severe weather).

**DEEP website**..... <https://portal.ct.gov/deep>

**Fisheries Division**  
(Central Office)..... 860-424-3474

**Inland Fisheries**..... 860-424-3474

**Marine Fisheries Program**  
(Headquarters – Old Lyme)..... 860-434-6043  
**Environmental Conservation Police**..... 860-424-3012

**Parks & Recreation**..... 860-424-3200

**Wildlife**..... 860-424-3011

**Forestry**..... 860-424-3630

**General DEEP Information**..... 860-424-3000

**Licensing & Revenue**..... 860-424-3105

**DEEP Store**  
(Maps & Publications)..... 860-424-3555

### Field Services

Questions concerning hunting, trapping, fishing, boating, camping, recreational use of state lands, forestry, and law enforcement may be directed to one of the following field offices (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

**Eastern Area Headquarters**..... 860-295-9523

**Western Area Headquarters**..... 860-485-0226

**Marine Headquarters**..... 860-434-6148

**Marine Law Enforcement**..... 860-434-9840

**Boating Safety and Education**..... 860-434-8638

### Other Useful Numbers

**Aquaculture Division (Dept. Of Agriculture)**  
**Shellfish**..... 203-874-0696

**Oil And Chemical Spill Response Division**..... 860-424-3338

### 24 Hour Emergency Numbers

**Toll free report a violation**.... 1-800-842-4357

**DEEP Emergency Dispatch** 860-424-3333

EST. 2004  
**J.F. GRIFFIN**  
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## About This Guide

This high-quality guide is offered to you by the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

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

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Jon Gulley, Dane Fay, John Corey,  
Evelyn Haddad, Chris Sobolowski

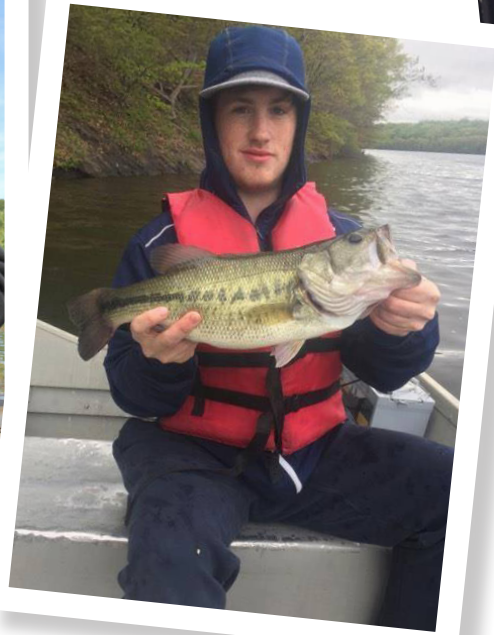


This guide is also  
available online at

**eRegulations.com**



# Reel in Trophy Bass, Walleye, Trout & Catfish in Southern Connecticut!



Stream Fishing  
Lake Fishing  
Boat Fishing

**Big Gulph,** Northford



**Genesee,** Madison & Guilford



**Lake Chamberlain,**  
Bethany & Woodbridge



**Lake Saltonstall,**  
East Haven & Branford



**Maltby Lakes,** New Haven,  
West Haven & Orange



The Regional Water Authority's (RWA) Recreation Permit program offers you the chance to catch trophy bass, walleye, trout, catfish and panfish at Lake Saltonstall, the Maltby Lakes and Lake Chamberlain.

You can even rent a boat at Lake Saltonstall to put you closer to the angling action, and experience the joys of fishing along nearly eight miles of streams running through scenic watershed lands in seven nearby towns.

No matter what type of fishing experience you are looking for, an RWA Recreation Permit can provide it!

And, the fun isn't limited to just fishing. You can jog, hike, watch birds, cross-country ski and bike on more than 50 miles of marked, easily accessible trails nestled in scenic southern Connecticut.

As a permit holder, you'll also have access to special family events such as nature walks, fishing derbies, cutting your own holiday tree and a photo contest with prizes. Children under 21 enjoy four seasons of fun for free when accompanied by an adult permit holder.

Getting your permit is easy and affordable. Visit [www.rwater.com/recreation](http://www.rwater.com/recreation) or call 203-401-2654. And, follow us on Facebook for updates, photos and more.

Your support helps us protect and conserve our watershed lands.

 @RWARecreation



## Greetings fellow fishing enthusiasts!



I'm a life-long avid fisherman, but during this recent tumultuous year, fishing took on extra importance for me as a way to escape stressful everyday realities and spend safe quality time recreating with my family. I am not the only one; all available information suggests 2020 was a banner year for participation in outdoor recreation like fishing, with many people either trying their hand at it for the first time, or rekindling a previous interest. To all of you in this group I say: Welcome (or Welcome Back)! I hope you will continue to make fishing a part of your

life and even help grow our ranks by sharing your enthusiasm and experiences with others.

A look across the Connecticut saltwater fishing landscape in 2021 reveals a mixed bag of opportunities and challenges. On the positive side, populations of scup and black sea bass remain at all-time highs. These bottom-dwelling fish can be found just about anywhere in Long Island Sound, are easy to catch, and if you're so inclined can provide a delicious and healthy meal. If you're looking to get in on this great fishing opportunity, consider booking a bottom fishing trip on a Connecticut charter boat or headboat. These boats provide a safe and easy way for you and your family to enjoy some great fishing action (and they'll even clean the fish for you). The current outlook for some of our other iconic marine sportfish are not quite as rosy; Striped Bass, Bluefish, and Tautog (Blackfish, 'Tog) have all been declared "overfished" by regional fishery management authorities, and as a result Connecticut has implemented more conservative regulations in recent years, which will remain in place for 2021. I am very optimistic that these tough but necessary adjustments will bear fruit and help return these species to higher numbers. But make no mistake — in the meantime, there are plenty of opportunities to catch stripers, blues, and 'tog in Connecticut waters. A great source for some tips to improve your odds is your local bait & tackle shop. They spend all day hearing customer fish

stories (some of which are even true) and can point you in the right direction.

In closing, I'll highlight one way in which you can take direct personal action to improve the future outlook for Connecticut fishing. Catch-and-release is becoming an increasingly prevalent practice, which is great — but how you go about it can make a big difference to your impact on the resource. Use of proper tackle and good fish handling practices can greatly increase the odds of a fish surviving post-release (see within this Guide and our DEEP Fishing Webpage for more details). This was the motivation for Connecticut and other coastal states to adopt a new rule in 2021 requiring the use of inline circle hooks when bait fishing for striped bass. Circle hooks are scientifically proven to reduce hooking injury and improve post-release survival. Consider adopting the use of circle hooks and other best practices into your own catch-and-release fishing; the fish will thank you and so will future Connecticut anglers.

Wishing you fair winds, following seas, and tight lines in 2021.

**Justin Davis**

Assistant Director, Fisheries Division



### INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT— COVENTRY LAKE & CONNECTICUT RIVER

In 2016, DEEP began funding (in collaboration with the Town of Coventry) management efforts (including a series of surveys and a herbicide treatment) with the goal of eradicating hydrilla in Coventry Lake. It is expected that this management (surveys, herbicide treatments) will be ongoing for several more years. Unfortunately, also in 2016, hydrilla was found in the Connecticut River. First in a difficult to access portion of Keeney Cove in June, and then in September DEEP staff observed several patches of hydrilla mixed in among the aquatic plants growing in the mainstem river at Glastonbury's Riverfront Park and Boathouse. It appears that hydrilla has been in the Connecticut river for a couple of years and it has since dispersed throughout the river in Connecticut. As a result, eradication is likely not practical. **All resource users should take extra care to check and clean their boats (including canoes, kayaks and rowing sculls), trailers, and fishing equipment before leaving the boat launch, or leaving the lakeshore.**

### INFORMACIÓN DISPONIBLE EN ESPAÑOL RELACIONADA CON LA PESCA EN CONNECTICUT — [HTTPS:// PORTAL.CT.GOV/DEEPCARE](https://portal.ct.gov/deepcare)

Los folletos de la pesca en aguas dulces y aguas saladas fueron traducidos al español para la distribución a la comunidad hispana residente en Connecticut. El objetivo de los folletos de pesca en español es para ayudar a fomentar, aumentar, y promover la participación hispana en esta actividad.

Somos afortunados en Connecticut por el gran abastecimiento de peces. La población de Connecticut tiene la oportunidad a pescar a no más de 5 millas de su residencia. Las aguas dulces de Connecticut le ofrece pescar peces tales como la Trucha, la Lobina, el Lucio Norteamericano, y el Panfish. Si su preferencia es pez de agua salada, las aguas de Connecticut le ofrece pesca peces tales como la Lobina Rayada, Summer Flounder, Anjona, y Porgy. ¡Vamonos a Pescar!



## 2021 FISHING PHOTO

# CONTEST WINNERS



2021  
Grand Prize

*Family fishing at its best,*

Leah and Leon Hutchinson with their biggest fish of the day, caught by Leah.

Please check out other great photo submissions used throughout this Angler's Guide and on our web page at <https://portal.ct.gov/deepfishing>

What better way to share the excitement of your catch than to have every angler carrying it around. We are now accepting high quality photos (please submit digital images to: [deep.inland.fisheries@ct.gov](mailto:deep.inland.fisheries@ct.gov)) for the 2022 CT Fishing Guide.

Evan Kamoen with twin Black Sea Bass from his secret spot in LIS.



Nicholas Dietz with one prized Tiger Trout landed on the Hammonasset River.



Jackie Diorio, while fishing with her Dad, caught her first Tiger Trout (22 inches long). She released it only for it to be caught again by a fellow angler.



7 year old Colton Berger caught this beauty of a Brown Trout while fishing with his grandfather, Chris Elser, in the Pomperaug River in early December.



Tyler Mazzotta with a beastly male tiger.





# FREE Introductory Level Fishing Courses!



## Where Connecticut Learns to Fish!

Since 1986, the CARE program has been training and partnering with volunteers in order to conduct FREE Introduction to fishing courses around the state! Let CARE introduce you and your family to the wonderful world of fishing and connect you to CT's amazing natural resources.

For more information about CARE, becoming an instructor, and our class schedule visit <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEPCARE>.

### Mobile Fishing Tour

- Show up and fish with CARE events coming spring/summer 2021
- Perfect fishing opportunity for Introduction to Fishing graduates
- Look for a schedule of dates, locations, and details on the CARE website in April

### Specialized Fishing Classes

- Designed for those with some previous fishing experience

- Classes will introduce specific fishing topics including: Bass, Trout, Fly Fishing, and "Catch it and Cook it"

### Introductory Fishing & Ice Fishing Classes

- Beginner level courses for adults and children ages 8 and up
- Virtual ZOOM classes now offered in light of COVID
- All graduates invited to attend an Instructor lead fishing trip
- Loaner equipment available for use on fishing trips



## CARE

Connecticut Aquatic  
Resources  
Education

860.663.1656

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEPCARE>



## Share your passion for fishing. Join our team. Become a CARE volunteer fishing Instructor!

CARE new instructor training courses are offered each February and June. Call us at 860-663-1656 to apply. Applicants must pass a State Police background check.

### Thank You Instructors!

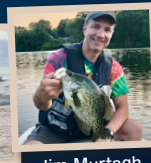
The CARE program would like to thank all volunteer Instructors for sharing your time, passion, and knowledge of fishing. CARE volunteers are a special group of environmental stewards who use fishing as a way to introduce CT residents to the great outdoors, while instilling an appreciation for our states natural resources. A special thank you to Instructors **Joe Arnsen**, **Jonathon Bousfeuillet**, **Jim Murtagh** and **John Ortoleva** for 15 years of teaching introductory fishing classes!



Joe Arnsen



Jonathon  
Bousfeuillet



Jim Murtagh



John Ortoleva



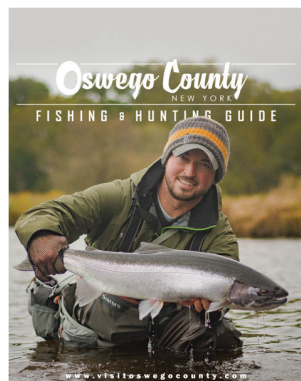
# LEGENDARY FISHING AWAITS!

## SALMON RIVER, PULASKI NEW YORK

**I**t only takes one light tackle hook-up for you to understand why they are called Steelhead.

Anglers from around the world will tell you that these underwater lightning bolts do more than steal your bait. By the time they have had their way with you, they'll have stolen your heart and soul. Whether heading upstream for a fall feeding frenzy or dropping back to Lake Ontario in the spring, these 5-10 lb. "chromers" will give you the freshwater fight that brings you back for more.

Let this be your year to experience the legendary waters of the Salmon River -- long regarded as one of North America's premier steelhead destinations!



[visitoswegocounty.com](http://visitoswegocounty.com)

## ORDER YOUR FREE GUIDE!

CALL US AT:

# 315.349.8322





# Trout & Salmon Stamp

## CONNECTICUT'S TROUT & SALMON STAMP

### Funding Trout and Salmon Fishing for Future Generations!

In order to maintain its trout and salmon programs, DEEP has established an additional revenue source in the form of a trout & salmon stamp. As with your fishing licenses, all (100%) of the money generated from your purchase of a trout & salmon stamp goes to support Connecticut's fish and wildlife programs.

### WHO NEEDS A TROUT & SALMON STAMP

A trout & salmon stamp is now required for anyone age 16 and older (including those age 65 and over) when:

1. Fishing in the designated Trout Management Areas (TMA), Wild Trout Management Areas (WTMA), Trout Parks, and Atlantic Salmon Broodstock areas; or
2. Harvesting trout, Kokanee, or Atlantic Salmon.

**Note:** We have received numerous questions from anglers on whether a trout & salmon stamp is needed to fish a Trout Management Lake (TML). These lakes are not TMA's, a stamp is needed at a Trout Management Lake only when keeping trout or salmon.

As a handy aid we are posting signs at many locations reminding anglers of the Trout & Salmon Stamp requirements at those locations.

Green signs will be posted at those areas where a stamp is required to fish the area, and purple signs at most of the other areas where a stamp is required only when keeping a trout or salmon.

### WHO DOES NOT NEED A TROUT & SALMON STAMP

1. Anyone younger than 16 years of age.
2. Holders of lifetime fishing licenses issued to persons that are blind, have an intellectually disability, or certain physical disabilities (see page 10).
3. Anyone fishing waters stocked at no expense to the state (waters stocked with trout by another entity, but not stocked by the state).

### WHAT'S THE FEE FOR A TROUT & SALMON STAMP

The fee for a trout & salmon stamp is \$5.00 (\$3.00 for CT residents ages 16 & 17). The stamp is issued for the calendar year and expires on December 31st (just as most fishing licenses).

### OBTAINING THE STAMP IS EASY

The trout & salmon stamp can be obtained just as you obtained your fishing license:

- Online [www.ct.gov/deep/getmyfishinglicense](http://www.ct.gov/deep/getmyfishinglicense), or
- In person at one of our offices, a town hall that has opted to sell licenses, or at a number of other vendors. For a complete list of vendors,



A Trout & Salmon stamp is needed for anyone age 16 and older to fish in TMA's, WTMA's, Trout Parks and Broodstock Atlantic Salmon Areas. Look for the green sign in these areas.



In other areas a Trout & Salmon Stamp is needed only by those age 16 and older keeping trout or salmon. Look for purple signs at many of these locations.

visit the DEEP website or call DEEP Licensing and Revenue (860-424-3105).

There is no physical stamp; when you purchase a Trout & Salmon stamp, a line noting that you have obtained a stamp is added to your license document (if purchasing online, don't forget to print the updated license or download it to your mobile device).

# 70 YEARS AGO, THE NRA CREATED HUNTER EDUCATION.

## ACCESS THE **MOST COMPREHENSIVE** ONLINE COURSE AVAILABLE IN *CONNECTICUT*...

# FREE! AT [NRAHE.ORG](http://NRAHE.ORG)





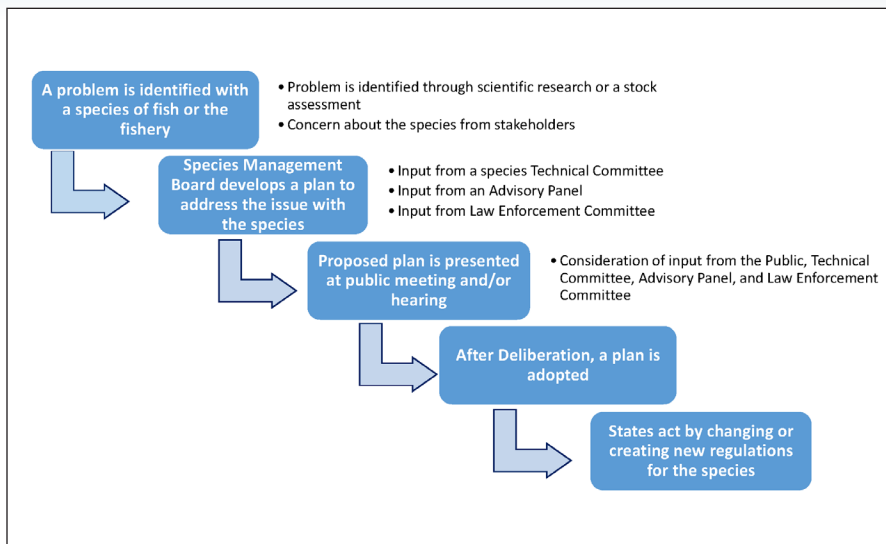
## THE CHANGING FACE OF MARINE FISHERIES REGULATIONS:



The goal of regulating marine fisheries is to prevent overfishing and maintain over time, abundant, self-sustaining fisheries, based on the best scientific information while remaining fair and equitable to recreational and commercial fishermen.

As marine fishes more often than not cross state boundaries, stewardship of the resource is maintained by multi-state commissions and regional fishery management councils. In our case, fish are managed in state waters by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and in federal waters by the New England Fishery Management Council. Each individual state contributes to the process by submitting data, providing technical and advisory support, and compiling feedback from the public. Ultimately, states are responsible to implement a collective management decision made through a larger commission or council.

To achieve this goal, an intensive process has been standardized to ensure that all stakeholders have input on the interpretation of the best available scientific data about a species. The process is multi-tiered and involves input from many people along the way. The final product is



the implementation of a regulation at the state level to support a plan to address an identified issue for a particular species throughout its range.

The graphic above summarizes key steps in the process for the development or change in the regulation for a species through the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

For more information about marine fisheries management, please visit the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's web page at <http://www.asmfcr.org/fisheries-science/fisheries-science-101>.

Because of the process, marine regulations are often finalized after the start of the calendar year (which is why the Connecticut Fishing Guide is not ready for distribution on January 1).



**US Army Corps of Engineers®**

**Find us in Connecticut at these lakes and dams**

Black Rock  
Colebrook  
Hancock  
Hop Brook

Mansfield Hollow  
Northfield  
Thomaston  
West Thompson



# Licenses

## RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENSES

Thank you for your support of fisheries programs and our fisheries. All (100%) of the money generated from your purchase of a license goes to support Connecticut's fish and wildlife. Your support is critical to help sustain your fisheries resources.

An Inland fishing license is required for anyone 16 years of age or older fishing in the Inland District (see page 55 for demarcation between Inland and Marine Districts). A Marine recreational fishing license is required for anyone age 16 of age or older fishing from shore or from a boat in the marine district. Most licenses are issued on a calendar year basis and expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Licenses are available online at [www.ct.gov/deep/fishing](http://www.ct.gov/deep/fishing). Licenses are also available at participating town halls, tackle retailers and DEEP field offices. For a complete list of vendors, visit the DEEP website or call DEEP Licensing and Revenue (860-424-3105).

### Active Armed Forces Members

Any active, full-time member of the armed forces may be issued fishing and/or small game firearms licenses for the resident fee. Proof of membership during the calendar year must be carried while using the license. These licenses are available only at town clerk and select DEEP offices.

### Other Recreational Marine Licenses

Special "Personal Use" licenses are required for: a) persons taking lobsters for their own use by up to 10 pots or SCUBA, and B) persons taking menhaden with a single gill net not more than 60 feet in length, for personal use from marine waters only.

- **Personal Use Lobster License:** \$60.00  
(purchase of pot tags also required if using pots)
- **Personal Use Gillnet License for Menhaden:** \$100

Marine "Personal Use" licenses are issued on a calendar year basis, are non-transferable, and are only issued by DEEP Licensing and Revenue at 79 Elm St., Hartford, CT 06106-5127. See <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/General-Information/Fisheries-Licenses-and-Permits> for additional information and a license application.

## COMMERCIAL LICENSES

A commercial license is required to take, possess or land (regardless where taken) fish, lobsters, blue crabs, whelk, squid, sea scallops, horseshoe crabs and bait species intended for sale from both the inland and marine districts. Contact the DEEP Marine Fisheries Program at 860-434-6043 or write to the Marine Fisheries Program at [deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov](mailto:deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov) or P.O. Box 719, Old Lyme, CT 06371 for further information on commercial fishing <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Commercial/Commercial-Fishing>.

## GROUP FISHING LICENSES

Available to qualified 501(c)(3) organizations wishing to conduct group fishing programs and events for qualified:

- Veterans with a service-related or other disability.
- Persons receiving mental health or addiction services from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) and associated programs & facilities.
- Individuals with autism or intellectual disabilities receiving services from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) or a facility licensed by DDS; or
- Persons receiving care from the Department of Children and Families (DCF), DCF receiving homes, or certain DCF-licensed child care facilities or programs.

Qualified organizations can apply for a Group Fishing License (\$125.00) to hold up to 50 events per year (both inland and marine water). Each event is limited to 50 people and must be supervised by organization staff or volunteers (who must have their fishing licenses). No fee can be charged to participate and the events may not be used as a fundraiser.

Contact DEEP Fisheries for more information and application forms.

LICENSE TYPE	CT RESIDENT AGE 18-64 FEE	CT RESIDENT AGE 16 OR 17 FEE	NON-RESIDENT 16 OR OLDER FEE
<b>SPORT FISHING LICENSES (FEE IS US DOLLARS) *</b>			
Inland waters only *	\$28	\$14	\$55
Marine waters only *	\$10	\$5	\$15
All waters *	\$32	\$16	\$63
1 day — Marine waters only *	\$5	\$3	n/a
3 consecutive days — Inland waters only *	n/a	n/a	\$22
3 consecutive days — Marine waters only *	n/a	n/a	\$8
<b>COMBINATION LICENSES (FEE IS US DOLLARS) *</b>			
Inland Waters and Firearms hunting *	\$38	\$19	\$110
Marine Waters and Firearms hunting *	\$25	\$13	\$94
All Waters and Firearms hunting *	\$40	\$20	\$120
All Waters and bow and arrow permit to hunt deer and small game *	\$65	\$33	n/a
<b>FREE LICENSES *</b>			
CT Resident age 65 and older *	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>FREE SPECIAL LICENSES (AVAILABLE ONLY AT PARTICIPATING TOWN HALLS AND SELECTED DEEP OFFICES).</b>			
Blind Inland or Marine fishing license (lifetime). <sup>1</sup>	Free	Free	n/a
Intellectual disability Inland or Marine fishing license (lifetime). <sup>2</sup>	Free	Free	n/a
Physical disability (loss of one or more limbs, or permanent loss of the use of one or more limbs) Inland or Marine waters fishing, hunting, or combination licenses (lifetime). <sup>3</sup>	Free	Free	Free to qualified nonresidents who reside in states which allow CT resi- dents the same privilege.

\* TROUT & SALMON STAMP MAY BE NEEDED. \$5.00 FEE—SEE PAGE 8.

1 Issuance of a free license to a person who is blind requires proof of blindness from the Department of Rehabilitation Services, or in the case of a veteran, by the United States Veterans' Administration.

2 Issuance of a free license to a person with intellectual disabilities requires proof of intellectual disability (as defined in Public Act 11-16) in the form of a certificate provided by a licensed physician or a licensed advanced practice registered nurse.

3 Any resident with the loss of a limb or the permanent loss of the use of a limb and a certificate to that effect provided by a licensed physician or a licensed advanced practice registered nurse may be issued a free license. Qualified nonresidents who are residents of states which allow CT residents the same privileges are also eligible.

## FAMILY FISHING DAY 2021

May 8th—no license required.

## FREE FISHING LICENSE DAYS

June 20th & August 14th.

Get a free one-day license to fish on these days.





Submit your permit applications online — A convenient on-line system is now available for the submittal of fisheries related permits. The ezFile system offers a safe, secure, and convenient process to submit your permit applications. After DEEP review, you will receive the appropriate documentation via email, **no more paper to fax, scan or mail.**

**Questions about ezFile or need help? Call us at 860-424-FISH (3474).**

1. Get started with ezFile:
2. Download Google Chrome (recommended browser)
3. Selecting the ezFile icon on <https://portal.ct.gov/deepfishing>
4. Select "create an account"
5. Follow the instructions (should take about 5 minutes).

## FISHERIES RELATED PERMITS AND REGISTRATIONS SERVED BY EZFILE:

### Inland Fishing Tournament/Derby Permit

Required to conduct a fishing tournament or derby on inland waters open to public fishing involving anglers 16 years or older. Organized events, like fishing tournaments, are usually limited to 50% of the parking capacity at a state-owned launch. Open water catch-and-release-only tournaments can be granted an exemption from Bass Management Area special regulations (exemptions available for all Bass Management lakes from September 1 through June 30, exemptions granted only for Gardner Lake and Mansfield Hollow Reservoir from July 1 to August 31). Additional guidelines and restrictions may apply for open-water trout tournaments/derbies conducted on waters managed by the state for trout.

### Liberation (Stock) of Live Fish

Required each time any live fish or live fish eggs are released into any pond, lake, or stream in Connecticut (it is illegal to introduce any aquarium fish into any waters of Connecticut).

### Importation of Live Fish or Fish Eggs

Required each time live fish or live fish eggs are brought into Connecticut from outside the State (no permit is required to import common aquarium species).

**Note:** Possession or importation of a number of species including piranha, walking catfish, black, silver and bighead carp, gizzard shad, and all species of snakehead (family Channidae) is prohibited.

### Permits are required for these activities:

- Stock fish or import live fish into the state
- Conduct a fishing tournament or derby
- Use grass carp to manage aquatic plants

## NOTICE TO SPORTSMEN

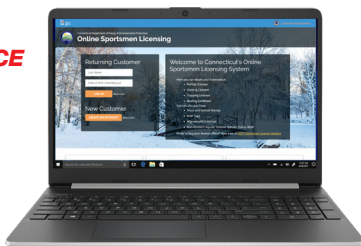
A judgement or a plea of guilty, forfeiture of a bond, or payment of a fine for a fishing, hunting, or trapping violation may result in the suspension of your fishing, hunting, or trapping license.

## BUY ONLINE ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE

of purchasing fishing, hunting & trapping licenses and permits, boating certificates and the non-resident AIS boat stamp directly over the internet.

**MOBILE FRIENDLY!**

<https://portal.ct.gov/deepfishing>



### Special Regulations on Association Controlled Waters

Any association owning or controlling the fishing rights in a stream or pond may request a temporary change in fishing regulations at their water body.

### Private Waters Registration

Can be acquired by individuals or a corporation that meet the eligibility criteria. There is a non-refundable \$70.00 application fee. As each situation is unique, please call 860-424-3474 to discuss options.

### Marine Fish Tournament/Derby Registration

Required to conduct a marine fishing tournament or derby in Connecticut that is open to persons 16 years of age and older as described under section 26-159a-26 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. There is no charge for the registration.

## IMPORTATION AND/OR LIBERATION PERMIT FOR TRIPLOID GRASS CARP

Authorizes the importation, possession and liberation of triploid grass carp into inspected/approved ponds. **Possession of diploid grass carp is prohibited.** Triploid grass carp represent one method of controlling nuisance aquatic vegetation. The Fisheries Division inspects all ponds to determine regulatory compliance, particularly to verify that the fish can not escape from the waters in which they were stocked, thereby preventing off-site damage to aquatic habitats. Grass carp information packets and application forms can be obtained by contacting the Fisheries Division at 860-424-3474.

## NATIONAL SALTWATER ANGLER REGISTRY

Congress, through the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, called on NOAA Fisheries to create a national registry of saltwater anglers. Required by the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the Marine Recreational Angler Program (MRIP) is a partnership working to improve saltwater recreational fishing data collection and provide more informed fisheries conservation.

The angler registry will improve data collection by creating a universe of saltwater anglers, essentially a phonebook of fishermen. This resource will help reduce bias and improve the efficiency of catch and effort surveys. Instead of asking a random sample of coastal U.S. residents if they've gone fishing (what is currently done), an angler registry through a phone or mail survey would allow surveyors to call upon those who have already identified themselves as saltwater fishermen.

### Anglers please note:

New York, Rhode Island, Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire also have marine license or registration requirements. Connecticut has reciprocity (your CT Marine Waters, or an All-Waters fishing license will be accepted) with all these states except for New Hampshire where a CT resident will need to obtain a New Hampshire saltwater license. Note that residents of Connecticut are required to have a CT resident Marine Waters sport fishing license to fish in Connecticut's Marine District.

Connecticut anglers holding valid marine waters fishing license are exempt from National Saltwater Angler Registry.

For more information, please see [www.countmyfish.noaa.gov](http://www.countmyfish.noaa.gov) or <https://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/nnri/>

# Trophy Fish Award Program



## TROPHY FISH AWARD AFFIDAVIT

**NOTE: POTENTIAL STATE RECORD FISH (HARVESTED) MUST BE WEIGHED ON A CERTIFIED SCALE.**

Kind of Fish \_\_\_\_\_ Where Caught \_\_\_\_\_ Town (port) \_\_\_\_\_

**PHOTOGRAPH (PICTURE) MUST ACCOMPANY AFFIDAVIT.**

**DATE CAUGHT** \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ **CATCH & RELEASE?** ☐ Yes ☐ No **YOUTH OR ADULT?** ☐ Youth (under 16 years of age) ☐ Adult

### HOW CAUGHT

☐ Fly Fishing ☐ Bait Casting ☐ Bottom Fishing ☐ Spin Fishing ☐ Live Bait ☐ Trolling ☐ Ice Fishing ☐ Day ☐ Night

**Kind of Lure or Bait Used** \_\_\_\_\_



### CAUGHT BY

**Angler** (print & sign name) \_\_\_\_\_ **Conservation ID#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEASURING & WEIGHING** (Harvested fish may be weighed at many CT bait and tackle shop.)

**Catch & Release Length** (inches) \_\_\_\_\_

**Harvested Fish** (caught & kept) **Weight** (lbs, ozs) \_\_\_\_\_ **Length** (inches) \_\_\_\_\_

**Weigh In Location** \_\_\_\_\_

**Witness** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

I, (signature & address of witness) \_\_\_\_\_ witnessed the measuring and weighing (Catch-and-Release fish must include an image of the fish next to a measuring device and need not be weighed) of the above-described fish, and verified the weight and measurements. The fish was weighed on a scale inspected by the CT Department of Consumer Protection.

**Certification #** \_\_\_\_\_ **or Vendor Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **or Inspectors Name** \_\_\_\_\_

### APPLICANT CERTIFICATION

"I hereby attest that the information submitted is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. Further, I understand that a false statement or false information submitted in support of this trophy fish award affidavit may result in my entry (affidavit) being disqualified, and it may also affect my eligibility for trophy fish awards in future years."

**Signature of Applicant** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

### AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE FOR USE OF PHOTOGRAPH (IMAGES)

Please provide a photo or digital image for fish identification purposes. Digital images can be emailed to [david.molnar@ct.gov](mailto:david.molnar@ct.gov)

**Note:** Each individual pictured must sign a release in order for the DEEP to use the picture. Parent/Guardian must sign for minor children.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, DO HEREBY AUTHORIZE THE Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection ("Department") to use my photographic likeness in the Department's Fisheries reports, publications and/or its Internet web site. I understand that such reports, publications and/or web site will be disseminated to the public and may be copied or otherwise reproduced. I hereby release the Department from any liability that may arise from using my photographic likeness in such reports, publications and/or web site. I also release the Department from any liability that may arise from dissemination of such reports, publications and/or web site or the use of the reports, publications and/or web site by the public.

**Signature(s)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

This form can be downloaded from <https://portal.ct.gov/deepfishing>



**FRESHWATER FISH** mail to: DEEP Fisheries Division, 79 Elm Street, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

**SALTWATER FISH** mail to: DEEP Marine Fisheries Program, P.O. Box 719, Old Lyme, CT 06371 or Fax Number 1-860-434-6150

**PLEASE EMAIL AFFIDAVIT & DIGITAL IMAGES** (pictures) to: [david.molnar@ct.gov](mailto:david.molnar@ct.gov) (marine images only) [deep.inland.fisheries@ct.gov](mailto:deep.inland.fisheries@ct.gov) (freshwater images only)

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Bureau of Natural Resources appreciates all the help it receives from volunteers each year. Typically, volunteers are from organized groups, but there are also some opportunities for individuals. Among the programs in which you may be able to participate:

### Volunteer Angler Survey — Saltwater Anglers

**For individuals:** See page 56 for details. Contact David R. Molnar (Marine Fisheries Program) at 860-434-6043 or [david.molnar@ct.gov](mailto:david.molnar@ct.gov).



The Trophy Fish Award Program recognizes and rewards angling skill. Successful anglers will receive a:



#### Certificate of Merit

- Bronze pin for your first fish of merit.
- Silver pin for your fifth fish of merit.
- Gold pin for your tenth fish of merit or a new state record fish.

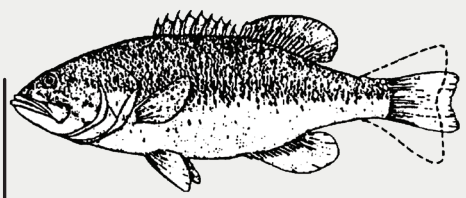
#### GENERAL RULES: SALTWATER/FRESHWATER FISH

- Top Angler Awards are given to marine and inland anglers who catch and keep (Harvest Fish), catch and release the largest fish of each species categories. Angler of the Year is awarded to the angler with the most species categories. Awards are provided at the annual Trophy Fish Award Ceremony.
- Youth Category is defined as anyone 15 years of age and under.
- Saltwater entries caught by boats leaving and returning to Connecticut ports. No overnight stays in another state prior to day(s) of fishing.
- Entries must be filed on the **Official Affidavit Form**, page 12.
- Submission of false or misleading information may result in disqualification.
- Fish must be caught by legal methods, played by only one person.
- Fish must be entered within 30 days of capture.
- All 2021 Trophy Fish Award Affidavits must be submitted by January 15, 2022.
- Fish caught in hatchery ponds are not eligible.
- Fish must be caught (including catch and release) during Connecticut's legal open season.
- **A clear photograph of the fish must accompany the Affidavit Form.**
- Fish may be weighed at any local bait and tackle shop (see page 14).
- **Please note: all potential state record fish must be weighed on a certified scale and a printout of the scale weight or an image of the scales certification number, date inspected, vendor name and inspectors name must accompany the affidavit.**
- The size of a potential trophy fish or state record fish can not exceed the maximum length for any given species (e.g., red drum).
- **For species not listed:** Trophy Fish Award subject to Fisheries staff identification and review.

#### CATCH AND RELEASE CATEGORY RULES

- All of the General Rules apply except that the fish does not need to be weighed. A witness must be present.
- **A clear photo must accompany the affidavit. This photo must include the angler holding the fish and also include the fish next to a measuring (yardstick, ruler, or tape measure) device to clearly show the length of the fish.**
- The accompanying photo must be taken at the location where the fish was caught and released.
- Fish can't be taken from the site and then transported back.
- BLE = best length estimate for highly migratory species.
- Minimum Length (Total Length) = Tip of snout to end of tail.
- Marlin & swordfish—measure from lower jaw to fork in tail.
- Shark species—minimum length is fork length.
- Fish must be released alive!

All fish are measured from tip of snout to end of tail (total length).



Total Length

#### TROPHY FISH AWARD MINIMUM WEIGHTS

Note: Minimum Lengths apply to the catch-and-release category only! The minimum lengths listed below do not apply to the traditional weighed category.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	MINIMUM WEIGHT	MINIMUM LENGTH
FRESHWATER	American Eel	3 lbs	35"
	American Shad	5 lbs	25"
	Atlantic Salmon <sup>1</sup>	15 lbs	31"
	Bluegill	12 oz	10"
	Bowfin	7 lbs	24"
	Brook Trout	2 lbs	17"
	Brown Bullhead	2 lbs	15"
	Brown Trout	5 lbs	22"
	Calico Bass (Black Crappie)	2 lbs	15"
	Common Carp	20 lbs	34"
	Chain Pickerel	5 lbs	27"
	Channel Catfish	4 lbs	22"
	Fallfish	1.5 lbs	14"
	Kokanee	1.75 lbs	16"
	Largemouth Bass	6 lbs	22"
	Northern Pike	10 lbs	35"
	Pumpkinseed	8 oz	9"
	Rainbow Trout	4 lbs	21"
	Redbreast Sunfish	8 oz	9"
	Rock Bass	12 oz	11"
	Smallmouth Bass	4 lbs	21"
	Sunfish Hybrids	12 oz	10"
	Tiger Trout	2 lbs	17"
	Tench	4 lbs	18"
	Walleye	5 lbs	23"
	White Catfish	4 lbs	20"
	White Perch	1.5 lbs	14"
	White Sucker	3 lbs	15"
	Yellow Bullhead <sup>2</sup>	2 lbs	15"
	Yellow Perch	1.5 lbs	15"
SALTWATER	Albacore	30 lbs	40"
	American Eel	3 lbs	35"
	Atlantic Bonito	4 lbs	20"
	Atlantic Cod	20 lbs	40"
	Atlantic Mackerel	1.25 lbs	14"
	Black Sea Bass	4.5 lbs	20"
	Blackfish (Tautog)	8 lbs	22"
	Blue Marlin	100 lbs	BLE (99")
	Blue Shark	175 lbs	BLE (54")
	Bluefin Tuna	400 lbs	60"
	Bluefish	12 lbs	32"
	Chub Mackerel	1 lb	14"
	Clearnose Skate	5 lbs	26"
	Cunner	1.5 lbs	12"
	Dolphin Fish (Dorado)	20 lbs	36"
	Gray Triggerfish	4 lbs	15"
	Hickory Shad	1.75 lbs	18"
	Inshore Lizardfish	8 oz	10"
	Little Tunny (False Albacore)	5 lbs	24"
	Mako Shark	175 lbs	BLE (83")
	Northern Kingfish	1 lb 8 oz	16"
	Oyster Toadfish	1 lb	10"
	Pollock	15 lbs	34"
	Scup (Porgy)	2.5 lbs	16"
	Spanish Mackerel	3 lbs	16"
	Squid	—	10" Mantle Length; 18" Total Length
	Striped Bass <sup>3</sup>	N/A	45"
	Striped Searobin	3 lbs	18"
	Summer Flounder (Fluke)	6 lbs	25"
	Swordfish	100 lbs	BLE (47")
	Thresher Shark	200 lbs	BLE (54")
	Tilefish	35 lbs	40"
	Weakfish	5 lbs	24"
	White Marlin	80 lbs	BLE (66")
	White Perch	1.5 lbs	14"
	Winter Flounder	2.5 lbs	17"
	Yellowfin Tuna	150 lbs	60"
	Blue Crab	—	8"

1 Includes only hatchery-reared broodstock salmon released into the Broodstock Atlantic Salmon waters and supplemental lakes. Wild Atlantic salmon from the Connecticut River and Long Island Sound are illegal to possess and not covered under this Trophy Fish Award program.

2 A clear photo of the side of the fish required for identification.

3 Due to current regulations (only bass between 28 and 35 inches may be kept), only the catch-and-release category is open for submissions.

# Connecticut Bait & Tackle Shops

[WWW.CT.GOV/DEEP/BAITANDTACKLE](http://WWW.CT.GOV/DEEP/BAITANDTACKLE)

TOWN	SHOP NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
Avon	Orvis Avon	380 West Main St.	860-678-7900
Bozrah	Bob's Bait	191 Fitchville Rd.	860-885-0292
Branford	Branford Bait & Tackle	51 Goodsell Point Rd.	203-315-1313
Bridgeport	Bass Pro Shops	1 Bass Pro Dr	203-362-4200
	Black Rock Bait and Tackle LLC	3309 Fairfield Ave.	203-345-1835
	H&H Shellfish LLC	365 Seaview Ave.	203-612-4798
	Marine Sport Center	2400 Fairfield Avenue	203-335-8646
	Orbit Marine Sports Center Inc.	3273 Fairfield Ave.	203-333-3483
Brooklyn	Brooklyn Trading Post & Academy	106 Tripp Hollow Rd.	860-774-SHOT
Byram	Rudy's Tackle Barn	242 South Water St.	203-531-3168
Clinton	Bait Box @ Cedar Island Marina	34 Riverside Drive	860-552-9802
	Shoreline Bait Runners Bait & Tackle	33 Indian Drive	203-909-5009
Columbia	Center Sports of Columbia	3 Orlando Drive	860-228-1666
Cornwall Bridge	Housatonic River Outfitters, Inc.	24 Kent Rd.	860-672-1010
Cos Cob	Sportsman's Den of Greenwich	33 River Rd.	203-869-3234
Cromwell	Big Little Bait & Tackle	1 School St.	860-834-8972
Danbury	Candlewood Bait & Tackle	36 Tamarack Ave.	203-743-2221
Darien	The Dock Shop	51 Tokeneke Rd.	203-956-5893
	Orvis Store	432 Boston Post Rd.	203-662-0844
	Compleat Angler	541 Post Rd.	203-655-9400
Dayville	Bob's Place	132 Ballouville Rd.	860-774-2286
East Canaan	Jim's Bait & Tackle	391 Norfolk Rd.	860-824-5773
Eastford	B & T Bait Shack	18 Sprague Hill Rd.	860-942-9638
East Haddam	Lakeside Dan's	18 Shore Rd.	203-623-5439
East Hartford	Cabelas East Hartford	475 East Hartford Blvd. North	860-290-6200
Ellington	3 J's Deli Mart	99 Stafford Rd.	860-454-7082
Enfield	Yankee Outdoors, LLC	88 Main St.	860-741-5994
Fairfield	South Benson Outfitters	South Benson Marina 555 Turney Road	203-400-2838
Greenwich	Byram's Bait & Tackle	35 North Water St.	203-531-5100
Groton	Ken's Tackle Shop	221 Thames St.	860-445-6888
Madison	Captain Morgan's Bait & Tackle	Marine Center, Rt. 1	203-245-8665
Manchester	Farr's Sporting Goods	2 Main St.	860-643-7111
Marlborough	Frank's Live Bait	19 West Rd.	860-295-9659
Meriden	Lunker City Fishing Specialties	640 Chamberlain Hwy	203-237-3474
Middletown	Fishin Factory III	238 East Main St.	860-344-9139
Milford	Bobby J's Bait & Tackle	354 New Haven Ave.	203-876-1495
	Fisherman's Paradise	40 Bridgeport Avenue	203-283-1432
Mystic	Shaffer's Boat Livery	106 Mason Island Rd.	860-536-8713
New Haven	Dee's Bait & Tackle	93 Clay St.	203-562-7025
New London	AW Marina Bait & Tackle	178 Pequot Ave.	860-443-6076
	Daniels Bait Tackle & Charters	Located at Burrs Marina 244 Pequot Avenue	860-849-8787

TOWN	SHOP NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
Newtown	Bounty Hunters Custom Baits & Guide Service	129 South Main Street	910-381-8304
Niantic	J & B Tackle Co. Inc.	23/25 Smith Ave.	860-739-7419
	Mackey's Bait & Tackle Shop	158 West Main St.	860-739-2677
Noank	Wild Bill's Action Sports & Tackle	93 Marsh Rd.	860-536-6648
Norwalk	Fisherman's World Inc.	2 Fort Point St.	203-866-1075
Norwich	Thayer's Marine Inc	14 Falls Ave.	860-887-8315
Old Lyme	Black Hall Outfitters	132 Shore Rd.	860-434-9680
Old Saybrook	Ted's Bait & Tackle	35 Ferry Place	860-388-4882
	River's End Tackle	440 Boston Post Rd.	860-388-2283
Plainfield	B & J's Bait & Tackle Shop	29 Academy Lane	860-564-7742
Pawcatuck	Mechanic Street Marina	179 Mechanic Street	860-495-2042
Plainville	Tag's Tacklebox and Plainville Bait	94 Whiting Street	860-846-0943
Pine Meadow	Up Country Sport Fishing	352 Main St.	860-379-1952
Portland	Zah's Bait & Tackle	204B Main Street	860-316-7539
Preston	Fish Connection	127 Route 12	860-885-1739
Rowayton	The Bait Shop Inc.	99 Rowayton Ave.	203-853-3811
Salisbury	O'Hara's Landing Marina	254 Twin Lakes Rd.	860-824-7583
Southington	Fishin Factory	1426 Meriden-Waterbury Tpke.	860-621-8145
Stamford	Pete's Place	124 Jefferson St.	203-356-9383
Stonington	Don's Dock	228 North Water St.	860-535-0077
	Stonington Marina	926 Stonington Rd. (Rt. 1)	860-599-4730
Stratford	Fishermen's Dream Bait & Tackleshop	167 Ferry Boulevard	203-345-7775
	The Surfcaster	360 Sniffens Lane	203-610-6965
Thomaston	Sanzeri's Bait & Tackle	288 South Main St.	860-283-8654
Union	JT's Fly Shop	664 Buckley Hwy.	860-684-1575
Wallingford	New England Dive & Tackle	1060 South Colony Rd.	203-284-1880
Waterford	Hillyer's Tackle Shop	374 Mago Point Way	860-443-7615
Westbrook	Beach Nut Sports Center	314 Boston Post Rd.	860-399-6534
	Jack's Shoreline Bait & Tackle	54 Old Boston Post Rd.	860-399-2271
	Black Hall Outfitters	362 Boston Post Rd.	860-434-9680
Westport	The Dock Shop	609 Riverside Ave.	203-557-0837
West Haven	Some-Things Fishy	17 Kimberly Avenue	203-691-1084
Windsor Locks	Joe's Bass, Bait & Tackle	12 Dickerman Ave.	860-623-7980
Winsted	Outdoor Artistry Taxidermy & Bait	351 North Main St.	860-480-5765
	Northwest Sporting Goods & Supply	178 Rowley St.	860-469-2891
	Still River Outfitters	58 Main Street	860-909-1131
Wolcott	Sportsmen's Outpost	415 Wolcott Rd. (Rt. 69)	203-879-1139
	Wolcott Bait & Tackle	690 Wolcott Rd. (Rt. 69)	203-707-6986

If we missed your shop or you have changes to your information on this list, please contact David R. Molnar, [david.molnar@ct.gov](mailto:david.molnar@ct.gov), or call 860-434-6043.

## REMINDER TO ANGLERS!

### Fishing in or Casting into Permitted Swim Areas is Prohibited

State regulations prohibit fishing in or into a swim area that's been permitted by DEEP. Additionally, vessels cannot be operated within a permitted swim area, and there's a 100 foot "no-wake" zone around the perimeter.

Swim areas that have been permitted by DEEP will be marked by white buoys with orange markings, and there should be a permit number posted on the buoys. They may or may not have small orange barrier floats to further demarcate the area.

Should questions arise concerning the validity of the swim area (*no permit numbers or the area appears to have been changed / enlarged or keeps moving*), please contact DEEP's Boating Division at 860-434-8638.

## FISHERIES ADVISORY COUNCIL



The Fisheries Advisory Council (FAC) is a group of dedicated citizens from all regions of the state working together for fish and fishing in Connecticut.

For more information about the FAC, please call 860-424-3474.





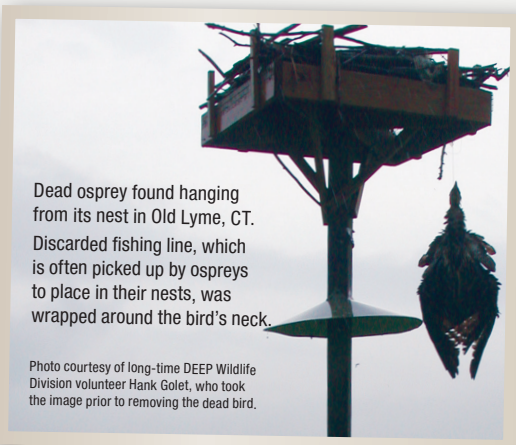
The Wallace Family enjoying Tautog fishing

## DISCARDED FISHING LINE AND OTHER TRASH

Anglers are reminded that any person who intentionally discards fishing line or other litter in the waters of the state, on public property of the state or on private property not owned by such person is subject to a fine under section 22a-250 of the general statutes.

Carelessly discarded fishing line can seriously harm or kill wildlife. Animals can become entangled in or ingest the line, which can cause starvation, strangulation and deep wounding. Wildlife usually do not survive the injuries they sustain from entanglements. Properly dispose of fishing line, hooks, lures, weights and all other trash. To prevent incidents like the dead osprey found in Old Lyme, monofilament fishing line recycling receptacles have been installed at dozens of inland and coastal sites around the state to encourage less waste line in the environment. The disposed fishing line is collected by volunteers and then sent to a company that recycles it to make underwater habitat structures for fish.

Find a fishing line recycling receptacle near you at [www.ct.gov/deep/fishinglinerecycling](http://www.ct.gov/deep/fishinglinerecycling) or look for the  on the lists of lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, and coastal fishing areas.



Dead osprey found hanging from its nest in Old Lyme, CT. Discarded fishing line, which is often picked up by ospreys to place in their nests, was wrapped around the bird's neck.

Photo courtesy of long-time DEEP Wildlife Division volunteer Hank Golet, who took the image prior to removing the dead bird.



## FISHERMAN'S DREAM Bait & Tackle

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Stratford, CT

## FRESHWATER & SALTWATER

Rods • Reels • Fishing Line

Rigs • Live Bait

Quality Frozen Bait

Fresh Bunkers Daily

Fresh Clams Daily

Boat Stamps

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Rod & Reel Combos**

**203-345-7775**



## The most up-to-date regulations online.



**eRegulations.com**

# Environmental Conservation Police

## MESSAGE FROM ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION POLICE

We all look forward to a new year in 2021 as we hope to escape the COVID-19 madness and restrictions. If 2020 taught us anything it's that our abundant fishing opportunities are a great opportunity for all to escape to the great outdoors and reconnect with nature while improving our physical and mental health. Our Environmental Conservation Officers were out in force during the beginning of the pandemic to ensure that Connecticut could keep our fishing opportunities open and available to all. Thanks to the incredible work of our officers and Fisheries staff Connecticut has been able to offer excellent fishing opportunities to all.

Our officers will continue to work in 2021 to ensure that we maintain the availability of our many excellent fishing opportunities. As you prepare for a new year and new adventures, remember to purchase your fishing license. The funds directly support our fisheries programs and enable Connecticut to provide access and opportunity to all to enjoy the outdoors. As we anticipate a return to "normal" please follow and like our social media pages and monitor our website for current information and updates, including for regulations such as the new circle hook regulation for Striped Bass.

As always, our Environmental Conservation Police Officers want everyone to have a safe, enjoyable and successful adventure. We are here to help so please do not hesitate to ask questions or for advice. Our officers have a lot of knowledge they are happy to share and are always happy to clarify any questions you may have. Before you head out for the first time this year take the time to review this digest for up to date regulations. When fishing from a vessel please wear your life jacket and file a float plan to leave with a family member, friend, marina or in your vehicle before heading out.

Please be sure to review the Trout and Salmon Stamp information to determine if you need a stamp before heading out. The stamp, along with your fishing license, are easily obtained online or in person at one of our many license vendors. Your purchase of a fishing license and stamp all goes to support our great state's fisheries programs.

Please go out to a local lake, river or a shoreline access point and take advantage of the many fishing opportunities that await you. Bring a friend and share the experience, and when fishing from a vessel remember to be safe and wear your life jacket.

While out enjoying our natural resources, we ask for your help in protecting your resources from those abusing them by reporting fish and game violations by calling our 24-hour toll free number at 1-800-842-4357. The more information, the better. Try to provide the following information if you can:

- Vehicle Description
- Clothing Description
- Time You Observed
- License Plate Number
- Area Being Poached
- Patterns You Observed

Thank you for your help and good luck!

**Colonel Chris Lewis**- Director, Connecticut Environmental Conservation Police

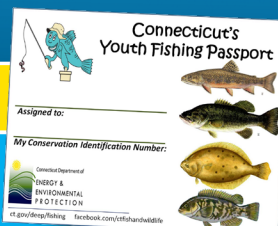


## Kids Get Your Youth Fishing Passport!

The perfect way for you to introduce your aspiring angler to the many benefits of fishing. The **FREE** Youth Fishing Passport program is a perfect way to spend quality time together. Getting your passport is easy, sign up online using the sportsmen licensing system [www.ct.gov/deep/sportsmenlicensing](http://www.ct.gov/deep/sportsmenlicensing) and then start fishing!

Visit <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP-Youth-Fishing-Passport> for details

For more information, contact:  
Mike Beauchene at 860-424-4185  
or [mike.beauchene@ct.gov](mailto:mike.beauchene@ct.gov)



Congratulations to the 2020 Top Anglers- in first place was **Daniel Echols** (left) who landed an amazing 17 of the species. He is followed by **Emmett Dougherty** with 15 species, **Kiera Mullen** with 13 species, and **Jessie Mullen** (right) with 13 species. Each will receive a generous prize pack of great fishing related goodies for their efforts. You should be here in 2022. For details see <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP-Youth-Fishing-Passport>.



# Fish Consumption Advisory

## ARE THE FISH I CATCH SAFE TO EAT? 877-458-FISH

The summary of advisories issued in the past by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and Department of Energy & Environmental Protection is updated annually and included as a reminder to anglers. These advisories apply to recreationally-caught fish from Connecticut waters. Individuals in the high risk group should be particularly careful in their fish consumption.

Proper cleaning and cooking methods include: removing the skin, “lateral line” area, belly flaps and dark meat, and broiling or grilling. These methods can reduce PCB levels by 50%.

## For More Information

Including the fish consumption fact sheet, a special fact sheet for pregnant women, foreign language summaries, and for updates visit the Department of Public Health (CTDPH) website at: <https://portal.ct.gov/fish> or call CTDPH.

- **Have health questions:** call CTDPH at 860-509-7740 or toll-free at 877-458-FISH (3474).
- **Have fishing questions:** call CTDEEP at 860-424-FISH (3474).

ADVISORY	WATERBODY	FISH SPECIES	HIGH RISK GROUP <sup>a</sup>	LOW RISK GROUP <sup>b</sup>	CONTAMINANT
Statewide Freshwater Fish	All Fresh Waterbodies (See more restrictive advice for specific waterbodies listed below)	Trout <sup>c</sup> , Sunfish	No Limits on Consumption	No Limits on Consumption	—
		All other fish	One meal per month	One meal per week	Mercury
Specific Freshwater Fish	Dodge Pond, Wyassup Lake, Lake McDonough, Silver Lake (Berlin)	Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Pickerel	Do not eat	One meal per month	Mercury
	Housatonic River above Lake Lillinonah	Trout, Catfish, Eels, Carp, Northern Pike	Do not eat	Do not eat	PCBs
		Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, White Perch	Do not eat	One meal per 2 months	PCBs
		Bluegill, Bullheads, Fallfish	One meal per month	One meal per month	PCBs
		Panfish <sup>d</sup> except for White Perch, Bluegill and Bullheads	One meal per month	One meal per week	PCBs
	Lakes on Housatonic River: (Lillinonah, Zoar, Housatonic)	Trout, Catfish, Eels, Carp, Northern Pike	Do not eat	Do not eat	PCBs
		Smallmouth Bass, Largemouth Bass	Do not eat	One meal per 2 months	PCBs
		White Perch, Fallfish, Bullheads	One meal per month	One meal per month	PCBs
		Panfish <sup>d</sup> except for White Perch and Bullheads	One meal per month	One meal per week	PCBs
	Quinnipiac River (Gorge to Hanover Pond in Meriden)	All species	One meal per month	One meal per month	PCBs
	Connecticut River	Carp	Do not eat	One meal per 2 months	PCBs
		Catfish	Do not eat	One meal per month	PCBs
	Versailles, Papermill Ponds & connecting section of Little River (Sprague)	All species	Do not eat	Do not eat	Mercury, PCBs
	Furnace Brook (Cornwall)	Trout	One meal per month	One meal per month	PCBs
	Blackberry River downstream of “Blast Furnace” (North Canaan)	Smallmouth Bass	One meal per month	One meal per month	PCBs
	Konkapot River (North Canaan)	White Sucker	Do not eat	One meal per month	Mercury
	Brewster Pond (Stratford)	Catfish & Bullheads	Do not eat	Do not eat	Chlordane
	Union Pond (Manchester)	Carp, Catfish, Bass	Do not eat	Do not eat	Chlordane
	Natchaug, Willimantic & Shetucket Rivers (Willimantic & Mansfield) <sup>f</sup>	Bass	One meal per month	One meal per month	PFAs
Specific Saltwater Species	Long Island Sound and connected rivers	Striped Bass over 25"	Do not eat	One meal per month	PCBs
		Bluefish over 25"	Do not eat	One meal per month	PCBs
		Bluefish 13–25" <sup>e</sup>	One meal per month	One meal per month	PCBs
		Weakfish	One meal per month	One meal per month	PCBs
	Mill River (Fairfield) (excluding Southport Harbor)	Blue Crab	Do not eat	Do not eat	Lead

<sup>a</sup> **High Risk Group** includes pregnant women, women planning pregnancy within one year, nursing women and children under age 6.

<sup>b</sup> **Low Risk Group** includes everyone not in the High Risk Group.

<sup>c</sup> Most trout are not part of the advisory and are safe to eat. However, the High Risk Group should eat no more than one large trout (over 15") per month and should not eat trout from the Housatonic River.

<sup>d</sup> Panfish include Yellow Perch, White Perch, Calico Bass (Crappie), Rock Bass, bullhead, and sunfish.

<sup>e</sup> Bluefish (including snapper blues) under 13" are not on the advisory because they have very low contamination.

<sup>f</sup> Natchaug River from Willimantic Reservoir dam (northern boundary) downstream to the Shetucket River, then 1/2 mile down the Shetucket River to Plains Road. Willimantic River from dam at Pine Street to the Shetucket and Natchaug Rivers.

# Aquatic Invasive Species

## Help stop the spread!

A number of aquatic invasive species are established in Connecticut and more are threatening to invade. Although zebra mussels continue to expand its distribution along the Housatonic River and remain a great concern a more immediate concern is hydrilla. Unlike zebra mussels, which are somewhat limited due to their water chemistry requirements (hardwater), hydrilla can likely grow in waters all throughout the state and a particularly robust strain has spread throughout the Connecticut River.

### Hydrilla

**Hydrilla, an emerging new threat to Connecticut's aquatic resources.**

Until recently, hydrilla was found at only a few isolated locations in CT. This invasive aquatic plant can spread aggressively (it can grow up to a foot a day), form dense mats of vegetation, easily outcompetes and displaces native plants, alters aquatic habitats, and interferes with recreational activities. Hydrilla is very difficult to control



Hydrilla can form very dense stands that can limit foraging habitat for predatory species such as Largemouth Bass.

once established. It typically sprouts later in the growing season, making it difficult to identify until the summer, can sprout in deeper water and/or from fast growing runners, can sometimes fragment easily, and will maintain robust growth through the end of the growing season.

Not native to the United States, hydrilla was likely first introduced to this country in the 1950's. It has since become a major problem in southeastern states and has spread into the northeast, and has now been found in two publicly accessible waterbodies:

**Coventry Lake.** In the fall of 2015, hydrilla was first identified in Coventry Lake. Since then, in collaboration with the Town of Coventry, DEEP has been supporting active management of this population of hydrilla, including plant surveys and herbicide treatments. Results have been good since treatment of the lake with the herbicide fluridone began in 2018.

**Connecticut River.** Hydrilla was first found in the river in 2016, in a back portion of Keeney

Cove (East Hartford) and later that year growing in the river at Glastonbury's Riverfront Park and Boathouse. The observed growth pattern suggested that hydrilla had been in the river for a couple of years.

In 2017 hydrilla was found in several new locations including Wethersfield Cove, Crow Point Cove, and scattered along the west shore of the mainstem from the Massachusetts border down to Thompsonville. Since then hydrilla has unfortunately spread widely throughout the river. The presence of hydrilla near the Massachusetts border and a population upstream in Massachusetts suggests the source population was upstream of Connecticut.

At this time it is unclear as to what control is possible in a large river system such as the Connecticut River, so it is imperative that boaters and other users practice "**Clean, Drain & Dry**" methods to help prevent its spread to other waterbodies. See the next page to learn more on "**CLEAN, DRAIN & DRY**" procedures.

### Zebra Mussel

**Zebra mussels are now found in a number of locations scattered throughout the Housatonic River and its impoundments.**

Until late 2010 when adult zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*) were found in Lake



Zoar and Lake Lillinonah, zebra mussels had only been found (1998) in CT in East Twin Lake and West Twin Lake (Salisbury). Since 2010, zebra mussels have spread throughout the Housatonic River and its impoundments and are now established in the river from the Massachusetts border to the Derby Dam, especially in its impoundments (Lakes Lillinonah, Zoar and Housatonic). In 2016, adults were found at the Rocky River power facility, which provides a connection between the Housatonic River and Candlewood Lake, and in 2020, a small number of mussels were found in Candlewood Lake.

The non-native zebra mussel was first found in North America in Lake St. Clair (Michigan/

Ontario) in 1988. Since then they have spread throughout the Great Lakes, the Mississippi River system and most of New York State including Lake Champlain and the Hudson River, and then into a number of western and southwestern states. Zebra mussels have fairly specific water chemistry requirements and are limited to waters with moderate to high calcium concentrations and pH. In Connecticut, suitable habitat for zebra mussels is mostly limited to a number of water bodies in western portions of the state. Under highly favorable conditions, this invasive mussel can disrupt aquatic ecosystems and is notorious for clogging water intakes and fouling boat hulls and engine cooling water systems.

### Knobfin Sculpin (*Cottus immaculatus*)

Knobfin Sculpins are native to the White River drainage in the southern Ozark Region of southern Missouri and northern Arkansas. They were first collected in Connecticut from the lower Weekepeemee River in 2002, likely arriving accidentally in Connecticut in the early 2000's



with a commercial shipment of live fish from the Ozark Region.

Knobfin Sculpins have since colonized the entire lower Pomperaug River drainage, becoming super abundant in the entire Pomperaug River main stem, and in the lower reaches of Sprain Brook, Weekepeemee River, and Nonewaugh River. The upstream spread of this species has been limited by natural bedrock barriers on Sprain Brook and Weekepeemee River, and by an old mill dam on Nonewaugh River.

Our historical fish sampling data show that impacts to other resident fish species, including young trout, have been devastating and impacts to aquatic invertebrate species such as crayfish and aquatic insects are probably also significant.

It is vital that all Connecticut residents and visitors remain vigilant to prevent this species from spreading. Many of our trout streams appear to have suitable habitat for Knobfin Sculpins, and once established, there is no reasonable method for eliminating them. It is illegal to collect any sculpins for bait or other purposes in Connecticut, and it is illegal to release any fish species into the wild without a DEEP Fish Liberation Permit. DEEP's Fisheries Division asks that anyone suspecting that Knobfin Sculpins are present in Connecticut in a waterbody outside of the Pomperaug Drainage please contact the Fisheries Division at 860 424-3474. More information can be found on our web page at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Freshwater/Freshwater-Fishes-of-Connecticut/Knobfin-Sculpin>



# NEW FOR 2020 -

## Aquatic Invasive Species Stamp Fee For Vessels

One of the accomplishments of the 2019 Connecticut legislative session was Public Act 19-190, which established a dedicated funding source for the Connecticut Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation account to combat aquatic invasive species (AIS) in Connecticut. Effective January 1, 2020 this account is funded by an Aquatic Invasive Species fee.

**For vessels registered in Connecticut:** this fee (\$5.00) will be automatically included on the boat registration renewal fee (the vessel registration decal will serve as confirmation of the AIS fee payment).

**For vessels registered in other states:** the fee (\$20.00) must be paid prior to operating the vessel on inland waters in Connecticut. The non-resident vessel AIS fee can be paid in the same way that Connecticut fishing and hunting licenses are obtained, online at [www.ct.gov/deep/getmyfishinglicense](http://www.ct.gov/deep/getmyfishinglicense), or in person at one of DEEP's offices, a town hall that has opted to sell sportsmen's licenses, or at a number of other vendors that sell fishing equipment. View complete list of vendors on the DEEP website or call DEEP Licensing and Revenue (860-424-3105) for the vendor list. There is no physical decal or stamp; when the AIS fee is paid, a line noting that you have paid the fee will be added to your CT sportsmen (fishing, hunting, etc.) license document that can be printed or downloaded to an electronic device (phone, tablet, laptop, etc.). While on inland waters you'll need to have this document (hard copy or electronically) available on the vessel. Note that this is an annual fee and is good for the calendar year.

All of your AIS fees will go into the Connecticut Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation account and will be used for projects involving the restoration and rehabilitation of the state's lakes, ponds and rivers; programs for the control and eradication of AIS and cyanobacteria; and education and outreach programs to promote AIS awareness and understanding.

## Some of the Other Invasives Found in Connecticut

Many boaters and anglers are familiar with freshwater invasive plants, in Connecticut these include:

**EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL** was first found in Connecticut in 1979 and has been documented in a number of locations in Connecticut as well as the Connecticut River.

**VARIABLE LEAF MILFOIL** was first discovered in Connecticut in 1936 and can now be found in a number of locations throughout Connecticut.

**FANWORT** was first observed in Connecticut in 1937 and is now widely distributed throughout the state.

**WATER CHESTNUT** was first discovered in Connecticut in 1999 and can be found in a number of locations throughout the state including scattered sites along the Connecticut River, several tributaries and connected. Water chestnut appears to be expanding its distribution in Connecticut. Annual plant that spreads via sharp, spiny fruits.

More information on invasive species in Connecticut can be found online at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Invasive-Species/Invasive-Species>.

Please prevent new introductions of invasive plants and animals;  
**CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY your boat and gear.**

## YOU CAN HELP!

**CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY.** You can help prevent the spread of problem species by following these simple suggestions.

### BEFORE LEAVING A BOAT LAUNCH

■ **CLEAN**—Inspect your boat, trailer and equipment. Remove and discard all aquatic plants and animals, mud and debris you may have picked up while on the water.

■ **DRAIN**—Completely drain all water from the boat, including bilge water, livewells and engine cooling systems.

### AT HOME

■ **DRY**—Dry anything that came in contact with the water (boats, trailers, trailering vehicle) for at least one week.

or

■ **WASH**—Rinse boat, trailer and equipment with hot water (high pressure if possible). A bleach solution can be used to clean livewells. Dispose of all rinse materials properly!

### REMEMBER

■ Do not dump your bait bucket or release live bait! Avoid introducing unwanted plants and animals. Unless your bait was obtained on site, dispose of it in a suitable trash container.

■ Do not transport fish, other animals or plants between water bodies. Release caught fish, other animals and plants only into the waters from which they came.

### IT'S THE LAW! (CGS 15-180, CGS 22a-381d)

■ Boaters must inspect their vessel for vegetation and listed invasive invertebrates (zebra mussel, quagga mussel, Chinese mitten crab, New Zealand mud snail, Asian clam, rusty crayfish) and properly remove and dispose of any vegetation or invasives before transporting the vessel. You can be fined \$95 per violation.

■ The importation, transportation, sale, purchase, possession, cultivation or distribution of a number of invasive plants including the following aquatic plants is prohibited:

— Curly leaved pondweed, Fanwort, Eurasian water-milfoil, variable water milfoil, water chestnut, Egeria, hydrilla, common reed, purple loosestrife, pond water-starwort, parrotfeather, brittle water-nymph, American water lotus, yellow floating heart, giant salvinia, yellow iris, watercress, onerow yellowcress. Violators can be fined \$50 per plant!

## Remove all aquatic organisms, mud & debris!



# INLAND FISHING



## INLAND DISTRICT REGULATIONS EXPECTED TO CHANGE IN 2021

There are a number of changes to the regulations that are expected to take effect later in June 2021. These changes include:

### Atlantic Salmon

The "Broodstock Areas" are renamed as "Atlantic Salmon Management Areas."

### Bow fishing

The definition for "bow and arrow fishing" is updated and cross bows will be allowed. Any fish shot by an arrow will count against the daily creel limit.

### Catfish

The creel limit for catfish at Colony Pond (Ansonia, Shelton), Crescent Lake (Southington) and Rogers Park Pond (Danbury) is changed to 3 fish per day.

### Common Carp

Regulations specific to bow fishing (12 fish creel limit, only 3 fish over 30 inches) for carp are established for West Thompson Lake and portions of the Connecticut, Coginchaug, Mattabesset, Housatonic and Quinnipiac rivers.

### Fishing seasons

The open season for fishing at Black Rock Pond, McGovern Pond and Walker Reservoir (East) will be from 6:00 am Opening Day through the last day in February.

### Tiger Muskie & Northern Pike

Regulations are established for fishing for Tiger Muskie. They will be considered as Northern Pike for the purpose of statewide regulations. Additionally, new regulations are established at Lake Lillinonah for Northern Pike and Tiger Muskie, 1 fish (either a pike or a muskie) per day with a 38 inch minimum length.

### Trout Management Lakes

Black Pond (Woodstock) and Mohawk Pond are designated as Trout Management Lakes with an extended March season and managed as a Brook Trout fishery with special regulations for Brook Trout.

### Trout Parks

McGovern Pond (West Hartford) is designated as a Trout Park (2 trout per day, Trout & Salmon stamp required).

### Wild Trout Management Areas (WTMA)

The Session Woods WTMA is reclassified as a Class I WTMA (from a Class III). The name of the stream in this WTMA is updated to "Freeman Hill Brook".

### Expected Changes Highlighted in Red

Expected change highlighted in red

Existing regulations

**WALKER RESERVOIR (EAST),**  
Vernon (6.1 acres)

• **Species:** (T YP S BB)

— **CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021**  
(SEE PAGE 20):

• **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 3rd Saturday of April – last day February.

• **Other:** All vessels prohibited.

Areas affected by these changes will be posted with new signs when the regulations become effective. DEEP will also issue press releases and post notices on the DEEP web site (<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP>) and the Fish & wildlife Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife](http://www.facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife)).

## DETERMINING REGULATIONS

A summary of the *Statewide Species Open Seasons, Legal Methods and Length & Daily Creel Limits* is listed in the table on page 21. **The regulations on many waterbodies differ from the statewide regulations.**

**Use this two-step process to determine regulations on a specific waterbody:**

1. Check the table on page 21 for the general statewide regulations.
2. Refer to the specific waterbody in the alphabetical listings of *Lakes & Ponds* (pages 32–41) or *Rivers & Streams* (pages 44–52) for special site-specific regulations. If no site-specific regulations are listed for a waterbody, statewide regulations apply for seasons, methods, and/or limits.

Unless otherwise indicated in the *Lakes & Ponds* and *Rivers & Streams* listings:

- Lakes and ponds are open year-round.
- Rivers & streams are open from 6:00 a.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April through the last day of February (Closed to all fishing from March 1<sup>st</sup> to 6:00 a.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April).

**The statewide open seasons listed in this table do not apply in areas closed to all fishing during a period of the year (If a waterbody has a closed season, all fishing there is prohibited, regardless of the statewide season for a particular fish species).**

### Lower River/Tidal Waters

Designated rivers & streams with no closed season. These include the entire Connecticut and Thames Rivers, and downstream portions of the Coginchaug, Farmington, Housatonic, Mattabesset, Mystic, Naugatuck, Niantic, Quinnipiac, Salmon and Yantic Rivers. Check individual waterbody listing for boundaries.

For more information on **Legal Methods & Gear, Length Limits, Creel & Possession Limits** and **Species**, refer to the definitions on pages 26–27.

**Note:** Regulations for several marine species found in the Inland District are subject to change.



# Inland District Statewide Species Regulations

SPECIES	NOTES	LEGAL METHODS	AREA	OPEN SEASON*	MINIMUM LENGTH	DAILY CREEL LIMIT
<b>Alewife/ Blueback Herring</b>	Daily creel limit is for both species in aggregate.	Taking of anadromous alewife & blueback herring from all Connecticut waters is prohibited. Emergency closure is in effect. See page 28 for more information. <b>Exception:</b> Landlocked alewife only may be taken from specific lakes. See page 28 for list of lakes. Methods, seasons & creel limits for these lakes are as follows:				
		Angling	Lakes & Ponds (see page 32)	Open year-round*	No minimum length	25
		Scoop Net	Lakes & Ponds (see page 32)	April 1 – June 15	No minimum length	25
<b>American Eel</b>	Spearing and bow and arrow use prohibited in streams or stream sections stocked with trout. Spearing prohibited in all lakes & ponds. The taking of elver eel, glass eel and silver eel is prohibited.	Angling, Icefishing, Bobbing, Bow and Arrow, Spearing	All areas	Open year-round*	9"	25
<b>American Shad</b>	Harvest of American Shad allowed only in the Connecticut River system.	Angling	Connecticut River (including tributaries open year-round)	Open year-round	No minimum length	6
<b>Atlantic Salmon</b>	Taking of Atlantic Salmon is prohibited. <b>Exception:</b> Atlantic Salmon Fisheries (see page 28)					
<b>Largemouth Bass &amp; Smallmouth Bass</b>	Daily creel limit is for both species in aggregate.	Angling, Icefishing	Lakes & Ponds	Open year-round*	12"	6
			Rivers & Streams	Open year-round*	No minimum length	6
			Connecticut River	Open year-round	12"	6
<b>Catfish</b> (Channel Catfish & White Catfish) <b>&amp; bullheads</b>	Daily creel limit is for both catfish (Channel Catfish & White Catfish) species in aggregate. No creel limit for bullheads.	Angling, Icefishing, Bobbing	All areas	Open year round*	No minimum length	Catfish - 6 Bullheads - No limit
<b>Common Carp</b>	Spearing and bow and arrow use prohibited in streams or stream sections stocked with trout. Spearing prohibited in all lakes & ponds.	Angling, Icefishing, Bobbing, Bow and Arrow, Spearing	All areas	Open year round*	No minimum length, only 1 fish >30"	5
<b>Bowfin, Tench, Suckers &amp; Lampreys</b>	Spearing and bow and arrow use prohibited in streams or stream sections stocked with trout. Spearing prohibited in all lakes & ponds.	Angling, Icefishing, Bobbing, Bow and Arrow, Spearing	All areas	Open year-round*	No minimum length	No limit
<b>Chain Pickerel</b>	—	Angling, Icefishing	Lakes & Ponds	Open year-round*	15"	6
			Rivers & Streams	Open year-round*	No minimum length	No limit
<b>Hickory Shad</b>	Daily creel limit is in aggregate with American Shad.	Angling, Icefishing, Scoop Net	All areas	Open year-round*	No minimum length	6
<b>Kokanee</b>	Trout & salmon stamp may be needed.	Angling, Icefishing	All areas	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April – last day in February	No minimum length	5***
<b>Northern Pike</b> <i>CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021 (SEE PAGE 20): Tiger Muskie are included as Northern Pike.</i>	Both pike & Tiger Muskie in the aggregate.	Angling, Icefishing	All areas	Open year-round*	26"	2
<b>Panfish**</b>	Except White Perch, see below.	Angling, Icefishing, Bobbing	All areas	Open year-round*	No minimum length	No limit
<b>Smelt</b>	Taking of smelt in rivers & streams is prohibited.	Angling & Icefishing	Lakes & Ponds	Open year-round*	No minimum length	50
<b>Striped Bass</b>	See Notes on Page 54	Angling	All areas	Open year-round*	28"-35"	1
<b>Sturgeon, Burbot</b>	Taking of sturgeon and Burbot prohibited.					
<b>Trout</b> (Brook, Brown, Rainbow, Tiger & other hybrids)	Trout & salmon stamp may be needed.	Angling, Icefishing	Lakes & Ponds, Rivers & Streams	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April – last day in February	No minimum length	5***
			Lower Rivers/ Tidal Waters	Open year-round*	15"	2***
<b>White Perch</b>	—	Angling, Icefishing, Bobbing	Connecticut River (including Coves & Tributaries) Tidally influenced Rivers & Streams	Open year-round*	7"	30
			Lakes & Ponds All other Rivers & Streams	Open year-round*	No minimum length	No limit
<b>Walleye</b>	—	Angling, Icefishing	All areas	Open year-round*	18"	2

\* Except in areas closed to all fishing during a period of the year.

\*\* Yellow Perch, White Perch, Calico Bass (Crappie), Rock Bass, and all species of sunfish.

\*\*\* Trout & salmon stamp required to keep fish.

# Trout Maps

**Trout fishing** has a long and storied history in Connecticut. As one of the most popular fish, the majority of trout fishing is supported through production at one of our three state fish hatcheries. Each year over 100 lakes and ponds and 150 rivers and streams are stocked with trout. Due to their popularity, DEEP has implemented several strategies to provide high quality trout fishing to the greatest number of anglers.

## TROUT MANAGEMENT AREAS

In an effort to improve trout fishing, several sections of rivers and streams have special regulations on season, creel limits, and size limits that vary from the statewide regulations. These regulations vary and can be found in this guide. These waters are also stocked with more and/or larger trout. Trout management regulations are designed to improve the fishing experience as they optimize fishing quality under heavy fishing pressure. Trout Management Areas (rivers/streams) are open to fishing year-round. **A trout & salmon stamp is required to fish in a Trout Management Area.**

## WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT

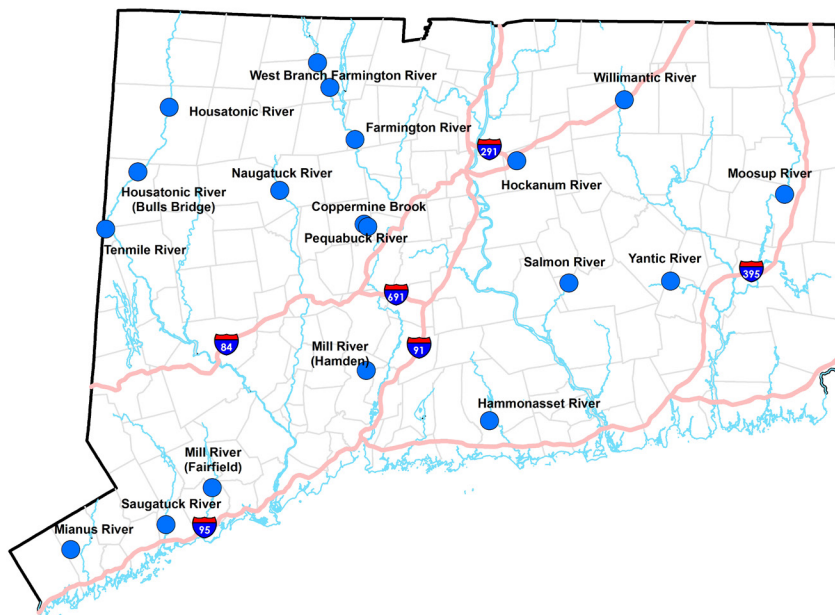
Wild trout (self-sustaining populations) are important renewable resource that add quality and diversity to Connecticut's trout stream fisheries. Wild trout are often more colorful, feisty, and flavorful than stocked trout and are conserved through special regulations identified by Wild Trout Management Class. **A trout & salmon stamp is required to fish in a wild Trout Management Area.**

**Class 1** = Catch and release only, open year-round, use of a single-hook artificial lures or flies only.

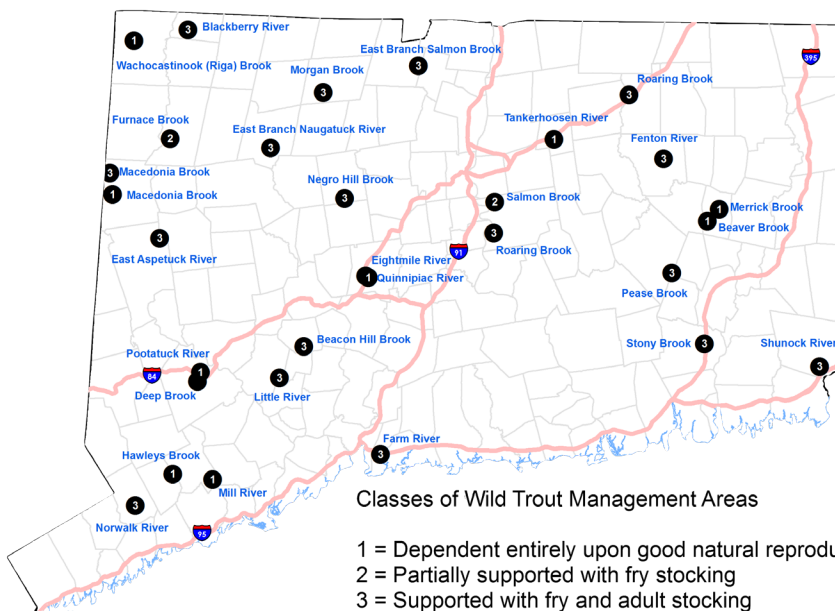
**Class 2** = Two (2) trout per angler per day limit, trout must be 12" or larger to keep from opening day to last day of February.

**Class 3** = Five (5) fish per angler per day limit, trout must be 9" or larger to keep from opening day to last day of February.

## TROUT MANAGEMENT AREAS



## WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT



Classes of Wild Trout Management Areas

- 1 = Dependent entirely upon good natural reproduction
- 2 = Partially supported with fry stocking
- 3 = Supported with fry and adult stocking

## FISHWAYS/FISH LADDERS AND FISHING

Fishing is prohibited in the area immediately downstream or upstream of a fishway, generally for a distance of 250 feet from the fishway. Note that at some fishways, this distance may vary from 250 feet.

At locations where the distance from the fishway does differ from 250 feet, the boundaries of the "no-fishing" area will be as posted by DEEP (look for signs and/or large rocks painted red marking the boundaries).

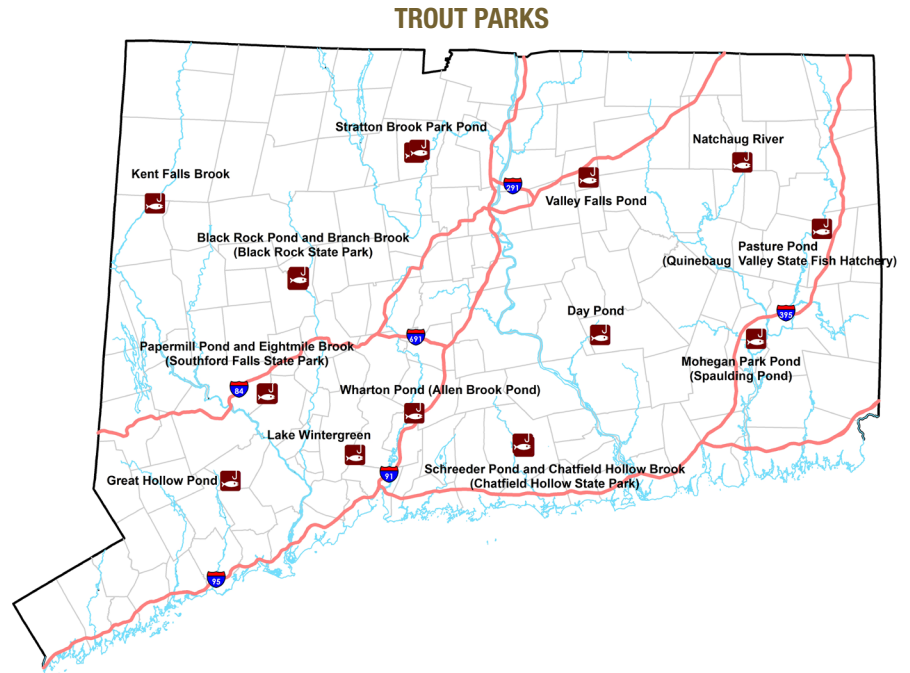
Anglers with questions about the "no-fishing" zones around any of the over 60 fishways in the state should contact DEEP's Diadromous Fisheries Restoration Program (Fisheries Division) at 860-434-6043.



## TROUT PARKS

Trout Parks are located in easily accessible areas to enhance trout fishing opportunities for young anglers and novice anglers as well as for those with mobility challenges. The frequent stockings, generally between Opening Day and Memorial Day, will greatly increase an angler's chance of catching a fish, making it a more attractive "fishing hole", particularly to children and families. The daily creel limit in trout parks is two (2) trout per person per day.

**A trout & salmon stamp is required to fish in a Trout Park.**



FIND CONNECTICUT DEEP'S INTERACTIVE TROUT STOCKING MAP AT [HTTPS://PORTAL.CT.GOV/DEEP/FISHING/GENERAL-INFORMATION/TROUT-STOCKING-MAPS](https://portal.ct.gov/deep/fishing/general-information/trout-stocking-maps)

An interactive map with near real-time information on stocked waters (including locations and the number of days since the most recent stocking event) and improved locational information about Connecticut's trout stocked waters using the latest in mapping technology.

## FISHBRAIN



Come join us on FishBrain (<http://www.fishbrain.com>) the world's most popular angler social media app, user name CTDEEPFISH

TAKE CARE OF THE RIVERS AND THE FISHING WILL TAKE CARE OF ITSELF

FIND YOUR CHAPTER: [WWW.CTTROUT.ORG](http://WWW.CTTROUT.ORG)

JOIN FOR HALF PRICE: [WWW.TU.ORG/INTRO](http://WWW.TU.ORG/INTRO)



# Warmwater Fisheries

## BASS MANAGEMENT WATERS

Bass fishing is very popular in Connecticut and Largemouth or Smallmouth can be found in almost every lake or pond. In most waters, bass are managed through statewide regulations (a standard 12-inch minimum length limit, 6-fish possession limit). However, in some "Bass Management Lakes" special length and creel limits designed to improve fishing by restricting harvest and allowing more bass to reach a memorable size have been put into place.

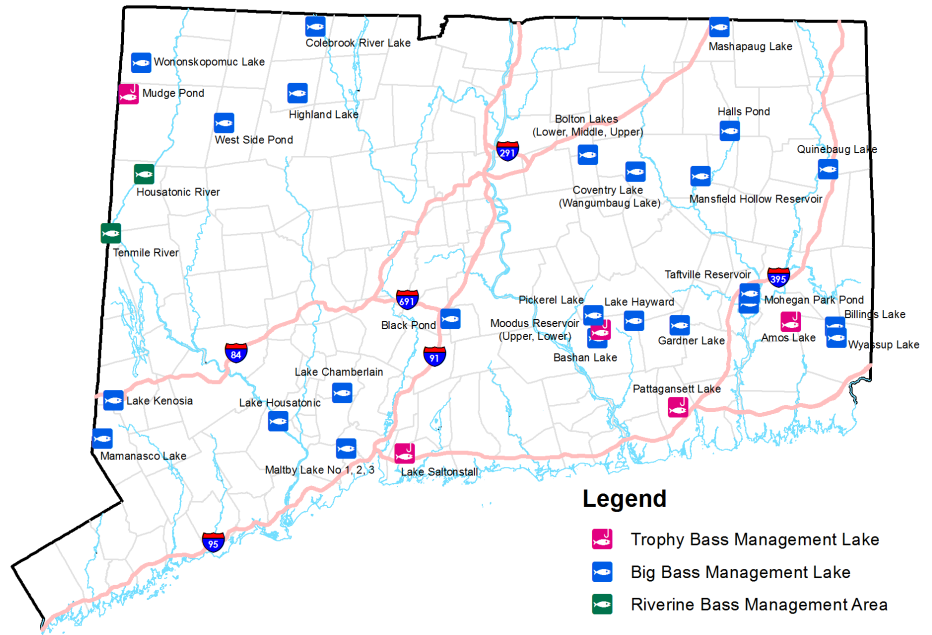
Slot limits are designed to protect larger, more desirable fish from harvest, while allowing anglers to harvest smaller fish that are often overabundant (at the waters with slot limits for bass, remember that you can keep fish under 12 inches in length). Harvesting surplus small bass reduces competition for food and allows the remaining bass to grow faster and larger.

CATEGORY	PROTECTED SIZE	DAILY CREEL LIMIT
Trophy Bass (slot limit)	12–18 Inches	6 Bass; Only 1 fish 18 inches or over
Trophy Bass (minimum)	Less than 18 inches	1 Bass
Big Bass (slot limit)	12–16 Inches	6 Bass; Only 2 bass 16 inches or over
Big Bass (minimum length)	Less than 16 inches	2 Bass
Riverine Bass (Stanley Tract Area)	None	6 Bass
Riverine Bass (Bulls Bridge Area and Tenmile River)	Catch and Release only	

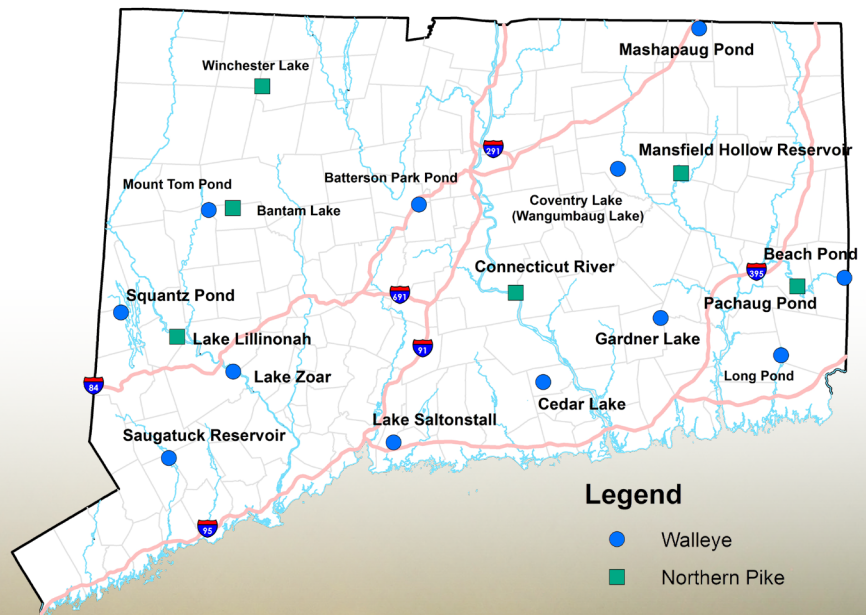
## WALLEYE AND NORTHERN PIKE

Walleye and Northern Pike Fisheries offer a unique opportunity to catch a very large predatory fish. Stocked as juveniles to help control over-abundant forage fish, Walleye and Pike take a few years to grow to impressive size. Over the years, anglers have enjoyed catching quality size fish, especially through the ice.

## BASS MANAGEMENT WATERS



## WALLEYE AND NORTHERN PIKE





**Fishnet Charters**  
Mobile Charter Service

Cape Cod - Buzzards Bay - Block Island

**Capt. Mel True**  
www.CaptainMelTrue.com  
508-951-9991 Capt.MelTrue@gmail.com

USCG Licensed  
Fully Insured  
4 Passengers

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift card to read: \_\_\_\_\_

## BE A RESPONSIBLE ANGLER

Protecting both the resource and your access to the resource requires more than simply knowing and following the fishing regulations!

### Respect Private Property

- Do not cast onto docks or into permitted swim areas (when in doubt, cast elsewhere).
- Ask permission before fishing from shore, or wading on private property.

### Don't Litter, Don't Pollute

- Keep your boat and motor properly maintained.
- Retrieve all lures and gear.
- Don't release live bait.
- Leave your fishing area cleaner than you found it!

### Be A Safe Boater

- Obey boating regulations, and check your safety gear frequently!  
Call 1-800-842-4357 to report violations.

### Be A Good Neighbor

- Treat fellow anglers, other recreational users and property owners with courtesy.
- Always be willing to share both the resource and your knowledge.

**And always use common sense and be courteous!**

## DO YOUR PART FOR WETLAND CONSERVATION — BUY A CONNECTICUT MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION STAMP!

The Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp Program is a great example of how conservation works—concerned citizens paying into a program that was formed to protect and enhance vital habitat. All revenue from the sale of Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamps goes into a dedicated account that is used solely for wetland habitat management and acquisition or for improving hunter access. Over 3,145 acres of critical wetlands have been protected in Connecticut using stamp funds. These wetlands benefit not only waterfowl, but also a multitude of other wildlife species like herons, egrets, fish, and amphibians.



All migratory bird hunters are required to purchase a Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp. However, anyone interested in supporting wetland conservation is encouraged to purchase a stamp for \$17 online at <https://portal.ct.gov/CTOutdoorLicenses> (you will need to get a Conservation ID) or by sending a check to DEEP License and Revenue, 79 Elm St., Hartford, CT 06106 and requesting a stamp or stamps (ordered stamps will be sent through the mail).

# Inland Regulations & Definitions

The following provisions are taken from the inland district sport fishing regulations, and do not apply to taking fish from licensed commercial hatcheries, private waters legally registered with DEEP, or to commercial fishing in the inland district. Information on commercial fishing in the inland and marine districts is available on request.

**ANGLING** Fishing with hook and line, which must be personally attended. No more than three lines, with or without rods, may be used at one time, except in the designated Trout Management Areas, Wild Trout Management Areas, Trout Parks, Sea-run Trout Streams and Trophy Trout Streams where the maximum number of lines that can be used is two, with or without rods.

**BAIT** Any animal or vegetable, or their parts, living or dead, used with a hook for the purpose of attracting and catching fish. Any fish legally acquired, except largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, northern pike, trout, salmon, carp and goldfish may be used as bait.

**BAIT SPECIES** The following species of fish, amphibians, aquatic insects and crustaceans may be taken by sport fishermen for personal use (a recreational fishing license is required), but may only be sold if taken under an inland commercial bait license (Go to [www.ct.gov/deep/fishinglicense](http://www.ct.gov/deep/fishinglicense) and use the "Open-Access License application" link).

- **Bait species:** Common shiner, golden shiner, fallfish, creek chub, spottail shiner, blacknose dace, longnose dace, pearl dace, bluntnose minnow, fathead minnow, cutlips minnow, chub sucker, white sucker, killifish, mummichog, Atlantic & tidewater silverside, sand lance, frogs (except northern leopard frog), crayfish (except rusty crayfish), perch bugs, hellgrammites and mayfly nymphs.
- **The legal methods for taking the bait species listed above are as follows:**
  - **Rivers & streams:** Bait species may be taken at any time with seines not over 15 feet long and 4 feet deep, bait traps not over 20 inches long and 15 inches in diameter, and umbrella nets not over 4 feet by 4 feet.
  - **Lakes & ponds:** Bait species may be taken at any time with bait traps not over 20 inches long and 15 inches in diameter and umbrella nets not over 4 feet. By 4 feet Seines shall not be used in lakes and ponds except those designated by the DEEP as open to commercial taking of bait. Where posted, taking, use or possession of fish as bait is prohibited in lakes and ponds.
  - **All inland waters:** During the open season for fishing, the species listed above may also be taken by hand, angling and scoop net.

**BARBLESS HOOK** A curved, pointed device, without a barb, used to catch fish. Barbless hooks may be single, double or treble, and each point must be without a barb. For the purposes of this regulation, hooks manufactured with a barb are considered barbless if the barb has been bent down to the hook, broken off or otherwise made ineffective.

**BOBBING** Fishing with a ball or mass of worms or other bait attached to a hookless line held in the hand or a line attached to a rod held in the hand.

**BOW AND ARROW FISHING** Common carp, bowfin, tench, white suckers, American eels and sea lampreys may be taken with a bow and arrow. These species may be taken by archery in streams and stream sections not stocked with trout, and in lakes and ponds, and only taken during the open season for fishing in those waters. Use of crossbows is prohibited. A fishing license is required.

**CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021 (SEE PAGE 20):** A compound bow, longbow, recurved bow or crossbow may be used. Arrows must have barbed heads and be attached to the bow, or to a fishing reel attached to the bow. Any fish taken by bow and arrow becomes part of the possession limit of the individual shooting the fish and cannot be released back to the waters where shot.

**BUBBLE FLOAT** A type of float that is attached to a fishing line or leader and can be filled with water to adjust its buoyancy.

**CAST NET** A net weighted at the edges which is cast out over bait to capture it in shallow water. The use of cast nets is prohibited in inland waters.

**CHILDREN'S FISHING AREA** Angling in such areas is restricted to children under sixteen years of age when posted as such.

**CLOSED SEASON** That period of time during which all fishing is prohibited in the area specified.

**DAILY CREEL LIMIT** The quantity or number of fish of a species or species group that can be taken by an individual angler during the period from 12:01 a.m. to midnight.

**DOWNRIGGER** A device, supplemental to a fishing line, used to deploy, via an electric or handpowered winch, reel or spool that projects over the side or stern of a boat and is used as a hoist, main line and terminal weight, one or more fishing lines to a desired depth in the water column.

**FISHHOOK OR HOOK** A curved, pointed device, with or without barb, used to catch fish. Hooks may be single, double or treble and each point shall be considered as a single hook.

**FISHING OR SPORT FISHING** Taking or attempting to take fish. In the inland district, fishing is limited to angling, bow and arrow fishing, bobbing, ice fishing, snagging or snatching, spearing, scoop netting, and taking or attempting to take fish by hand.

**FLOAT (BOBBER)** Any buoyant object attached to a fishing line. No floats may be used unless personally attended.

**FLY** A single or double hook dressed with hair, feathers, tinsel, thread, yarn or similar material to which no bait, spinner, spoon, plug or other device is added.

**FLY FISHING** Angling with the use of a fly reel, fly rod, fly line, leader and a fly or flies. Extra weight may be built into the fly in its construction, as in a weighted nymph, and additional weight may be attached to the leader or line. "Tenkara" fishing is considered to be fly-fishing. The use of strike indicators is permitted.

**GAFF** A spear or hook, with or without a handle, used for holding or lifting fish. The use of a gaff to land or assist in landing a fish is prohibited in the inland district.

**HAND-HELD JIG** A rod, jig stick or line held in the hand used for fishing through the ice.

**ICE FISHING** Not more than six tip-ups, floats (bobbers), similar devices, or hand-held jigs or any combination thereof not exceeding six in the aggregate may be used at one time. Not more than three baited hooks, with or without attractors, or three ice flies, or three artificial lures, or any combination thereof not exceeding three in the aggregate may be used with each tip-up, float (bobber), or similar device or hand-held jig. Devices must be personally attended. The name and address of the user must be legibly stamped on or attached to all devices.

**INLAND DISTRICT** Is the area inland of the demarcation lines as listed on page 55.

**LEADCORE LINE** A fishing line constructed with a metal core.

**MAXIMUM LENGTH** Measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail. No person shall possess any fish greater than the lengths specified and any fish greater than the maximum length, shall, without avoidable injury, be immediately returned to the water from which taken.

**MINIMUM LENGTH** Measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail. No person shall possess any fish less than the lengths specified and any fish less than the minimum length, shall, without avoidable injury, be immediately returned to the water from which taken.

**PANFISH** Includes yellow perch, white perch, calico bass, rock bass, and all species of sunfish.

**POSSESSION LIMIT** The total number of fish of any species or species group that may be possessed by one person either on the person, on the waters of the state, the shores of these waters, or in any type of vehicle and may



not exceed the creel limits for one day, as listed in this pamphlet. Fish so possessed shall be intact to the extent that neither the heads nor tails have been removed. Note that this does not restrict the number of legally acquired fish that may be kept in storage at home.

**SCOOP NET** A manually operated, flexible mesh net attached to a hoop which is attached to a handle. The hoop may not be over 36 inches across at the widest point and the mesh bag may not be more than 36 inches in depth at its deepest point. The use of any such net constructed of metal mesh or stiff plastic mesh is prohibited.

**SEINE NET** A net weighted at the bottom, with top floats, that is used to encircle fish.

**SET LINE** A line with one or both ends secured to the shore, or to a fixed or buoyant object in the water which is used for fishing and is not personally attended. Use of set lines in the inland district is prohibited.

**SLOT LENGTHS** Length limits designated to reduce or increase the taking of fish by anglers.

- **Protected slot lengths:** Lengths between which fish may not be kept by anglers.
- **Open slot lengths:** Lengths between which fish may be kept by anglers.

**SNAGGING or SNATCHING** The taking of fish by foul hooking, that is hooking fish in any part of the body other than the mouth. Snagging is prohibited

in all waters in the Inland District except that, in streams open to fishing throughout the year, menhaden, alewives and blueback (glut) herring may be taken by these methods. Anglers are reminded that there currently is an emergency ban on the taking of anadromous alewife and blueback herring (see page 28).

**SPEARING** The use of any pointed instrument, with or without barbs, propelled solely by hand. Common carp, bowfin, tench, American eels, white suckers and sea lampreys may be taken by spearing in streams or sections of streams not stocked with trout during the open seasons for fishing in such waters. Prohibited in lakes and ponds. Underwater spear fishing and the use of any type of spear gun is prohibited in all waters within the Inland District.

**STRIKE INDICATOR** Means a brightly colored, highly visible tab, sleeve or bead or similar material used in fly fishing. Such devices may be attached to the line or leader when used in areas restricted to fly fishing only.

**TAKE or TAKING** Killing, capturing or otherwise rendering into possession, any fish or bait species, or attempting to kill, capture or rendering into possession, or assisting in taking or attempting to take any fish or bait species.

**TENKARA FISHING** Angling with the use of a tenkara rod, tenkara line and a fly or flies, without the use of a reel of any type.

**TROUT** Include brook (charr), brown, lake, and rainbow trout and their hybrids.

## DISABLED ACCESS

These areas in the Inland District provide fishing access with primary use intended for persons with disabilities. Check the *Coastal Launch* and *Coastal State Park Sections* (pages 58 & 59) for areas in the Marine District.

- **Angus Park Pond, Glastonbury:** Off Manchester Road (Route 83) turn east on Fisher Road. Located on upper dike in Town Park.
- **Beachdale Pond, Voluntown:** Route 149 next to boat access area.
- **Beaver Brook Ponds, Windham:** Off Back Road at dam/access area.
- **Bigelow Pond, Union:** At boat launch in Bigelow Hollow SP.
- **Billings Lake, North Stonington:** At dam adjacent to boat access area.
- **Black Pond, Meriden-Middlefield:** Adjacent to boat ramp.
- **Bladens Brook, Seymour:** Access only by permission of Seymour Land Conservation Trust.
- **Center Spring Park Pond, Manchester:** In Center Spring Park.
- **Connecticut River-Haddam Meadows State Park, Haddam:** Dock at the boat launch in Haddam Meadows State Park.
- **Connecticut River-Salmon River Cove, East Haddam:** Dock at state boat launch.
- **Coventry Lake (Wangumbaug Lake), Coventry:** At state boat launch.
- **Day Pond, Colchester:** Off Route 149 at dam in Day Pond SP.
- **Eagleville Lake, Coventry-Mansfield:** On dam off Route 275.
- **Eight Mile River, East Haddam:** Devil's Hopyard SP.
- **Farmington River—West Branch, Barkhamsted:** Off dirt road south of Route 318.
- **Farmington River, Unionville:** On Farmington Land Trust ([www.farmingtonlandtrust.org](http://www.farmingtonlandtrust.org)) property upstream from Route 177 (between River Road and Railroad Avenue, southerly side of river).
- **Gardner Lake, Salem-Montville-Bozrah:** On dam at Lake Road.
- **Higginum Reservoir, Haddam:** Off Route 81 on northeast shore.
- **Highland Lake, Winchester:** At state boat launch.
- **Hopeville Pond, Griswold:** At end of State Park campground.
- **Lake Saltonstall, Branford:** At SCCRWA access area off Hosley Avenue.
- **Mansfield Training Center Pond, Mansfield:** Located just east of the junction of Routes 44 & 32.
- **Mashapaug Lake, Union:** Off the dock at boat launch in Bigelow Hollow SP.
- **Mianus River, Stamford:** Merriebrook Lane, ADA accessible trail and fishing platform.
- **Mill River, Hamden:** At Clark's Pond Dam.
- **Pattaconk Lake (Russell Jennings Pond), Chester:** Located between dam and beach in Pattaconk Recreation Area.
- **Salmon Brook (East Branch), Granby:** East side of river just above Route 20.
- **Salmon River Fly Area, Colchester:** 0.9 miles north of Route 16 on River Road.
- **Salmon River, East Hampton:** South end of picnic area off Gulf Road just south of Route 16.
- **Saugatuck Reservoir, Easton-Redding-Weston:** Parking area near dam.
- **Scoville Reservoir, Wolcott:** At town boat launch.
- **Southford Falls Pond, Oxford-Southbury:** In Southford Falls SP.
- **Squantz Pond, New Fairfield:** Near Squantz Pond SP boat launch.
- **Stratton Brook Park Pond, Simsbury:** In Stratton Brook SP.
- **Walkers Reservoir (East), Vernon:** Turn south near Route 31 and I-84 junction on Reservoir Road.

Note that many trout parks and other areas identified in the guide as "family friendly" may be suitable for some individuals with mobility challenges that don't need or want a formal structure such as those found at the sites listed above.

# Atlantic Salmon & River Herring

## ATLANTIC SALMON:

**Seasons, Creel Limits & Methods for the period from December 1, 2020 –March 31, 2022**

	OPEN SEASON	DAILY CREEL LIMIT	LEGAL METHODS (all seasons)
RIVERS	December 16, 2020 through March 31, 2021	One (1) salmon per day*	Fishing for, or keeping Atlantic Salmon is limited to use of a <b>single fly</b> , or an <b>artificial lure with a single free-swinging hook</b> . Additional weight may not be added to the line. <b>Snagging is strictly prohibited.</b>
	April 1, 2021 to 6:00 a.m., April 10, 2021	Salmon fishing closed	
	6:00 a.m., April 10, 2021 through August 31, 2021	One (1) salmon per day*	
	September 1, 2021 through December 15, 2021	Catch and release only	
	December 16, 2021 through March 31, 2022	One (1) salmon per day*	
LAKES	Seasons and Methods in lakes stocked with Atlantic salmon are the same as for trout in that water body except that the Daily Creel Limit is One (1) salmon per day*. See specific water body listing in the Lakes & Ponds section.		

The regulations for Atlantic Salmon are different between lakes and rivers and also vary by date. If you have any questions about these regulations please contact DEEP Fisheries staff at 860-424-FISH (3474) (Hartford), 860-295-9523 (Marlborough), or 860-485-0226 (Harwinton). \*A Trout & Salmon stamp is required to keep a Atlantic Salmon.

## ATLANTIC SALMON FISHING

While the Federal Government and other New England states have discontinued the restoration program, Connecticut has transitioned to a “Legacy Program” and will be maintaining enough Atlantic Salmon to preserve genetic integrity of the Connecticut River strain. As a result DEEP will continue stocking, in reduced numbers, fry and adults each year. To support the unique Atlantic Salmon fisheries that have been established on the Naugatuck and Shetucket rivers, as well as selected lakes and ponds stocked at various times (Beach Pond, Crystal Lake, Mashapaug Lake and Mount Tom Pond), DEEP will also produce about 1,000–1,200 2–3 year old fish (average weight of 2–5 pounds) annually. These fish are being grown and stocked specifically for this recreational fishery and are stocked before they produce eggs.

### Fishing for Atlantic Salmon in rivers is allowed only in the following areas:

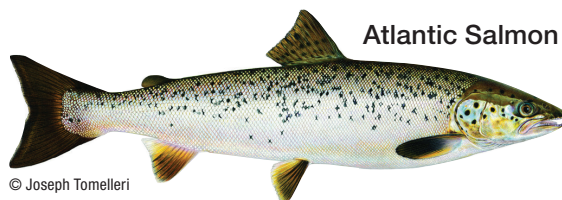
- **Naugatuck River:** From the confluence of the East and West Branches (Torrington) downstream to the Housatonic River.
- **Housatonic River:** Entire river downstream of the Derby Dam.
- **Shetucket River:** Downstream from the Scotland Dam (Windham) to the Water Street Bridge (Norwich).

### Salmon are Stocked Into Three Designated “Management” Areas:

- **Naugatuck River:**
  - From Route 118, Litchfield-Harwinton, downstream to the Thomaston Dam (Upper section).
  - From Prospect Street, Naugatuck, downstream to Pines Bridge Road, Beacon Falls (Lower section).
- **Shetucket River:** From the Scotland Dam, Scotland, downstream to the Occum Dam, Norwich.

### Designated “Atlantic Salmon Management” Area Fishing Restriction

From September 1 to March 31, angling for all species in the designated salmon “broodstock” areas on the Naugatuck and Shetucket Rivers is restricted to fishing methods that are legal for Atlantic Salmon (a single fly, or a lure with a single free-swinging hook only). Additional weight may not be added to the line. Don't forget, if you are fishing for, or catch and plan to keep an Atlantic Salmon, even if outside one of the “Management” Areas, you must be using the legal gear for Atlantic Salmon. Anglers are reminded that the season is closed from March 1<sup>st</sup> to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April for all species other than Atlantic Salmon except in the upper Naugatuck River “Management” Area. This area is within the Naugatuck River TMA, which is open year-round for trout (catch-and-release only). **A Trout & salmon stamp is required to fish the designated “Atlantic Salmon Management” Areas.**



© Joseph Tomelleri

## Important Note

Adult Atlantic Salmon returning from saltwater to freshwater in the Connecticut River system are no longer being captured, removed, and held at a hatchery. There is a possibility that an angler could catch one of these large returning fish. These salmon are protected and it is illegal to fish for them and any fish accidentally captured must be released to the water immediately. We would appreciate the reporting of any such accidental captures to Tim Wildman at 860-447-4315.

## ALEWIFE & BLUEBACK HERRING

### Emergency Fishery Closure is in effect:

**Taking of anadromous Alewife and Blueback Herring is prohibited from all Connecticut waters including Long Island Sound.**

Alewife and Blueback Herring (collectively termed “river herring”) runs have been declining. While the reasons for the decline are not fully understood, DEEP believes there could be a number of factors, most of which are affecting the species out in the ocean. Healthy river herring populations are needed to provide food for many species.

To restore herring runs, the DEEP is taking a number of actions including removing dams, building fishways, reintroducing pre-spawn adults into streams that had previously supported runs, and eliminating harvest. An immediate recovery is not expected. However, this closure may reduce the threat of further declines and enable river herring populations to recover more quickly in favorable years.

This emergency closure will be in place through at least March 2021 and will likely be extended. Check the DEEP website (<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP>) or contact DEEP Inland Fisheries (860-424-3474) or Marine Fisheries (860-434-6043) for more information.

### Landlocked Alewife

Landlocked alewife populations are established in several Connecticut lakes and ponds. Landlocked alewife may be taken by angling or scoop net only from the following lakes:

- Amos Lake
- Ball Pond
- Beach Pond
- Candlewood Lake
- Crystal Lake (Ellington)
- Highland Lake
- Mount Tom Pond
- Quassapaug Lake
- Quonnipaug Lake
- Squantz Pond
- Uncas Lake
- Waramaug Lake



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# CONNECTICUT'S STATE FISH HATCHERIES

*Growing Your Fish for 90 Years*



## **BURLINGTON STATE FISH HATCHERY**



**ADDRESS**  
34 Belden Rd  
Burlington, CT 06013

**HOURS**  
8:00 am to 3:00 pm

**TOURS**  
Self-guided or by reservation

**PHONE**  
860-673-2340

**FISH  
RAISED**  
Survivor Strain — brown trout  
Kokanee salmon fry  
Brook, Brown, Rainbow trout

## **QUINEBAUG VALLEY STATE TROUT HATCHERY**



**ADDRESS**  
141 Trout Hatchery Rd  
Central Village, CT 06332

**HOURS**  
8:00 am to 3:00 pm

**TOURS**  
Self-guided tours of visitor area  
only, hatchery facilities are not  
open to the public.

**PHONE**  
860-564-7542

**FISH  
RAISED**  
Brook, Brown,  
Rainbow trout  
Tiger trout  
Broodstock trout



## **KENSINGTON STATE FISH HATCHERY**



**ADDRESS**  
120 Old Hatchery Rd  
Kensington, CT 06037

**PHONE**  
860-829-8518

**FISH  
RAISED**  
Cortland strain — brown trout  
Seeforellen strain — brown trout  
Atlantic salmon fry  
Atlantic salmon broodstock  
Trout and salmon eggs to support  
the Trout-in-the-Classroom Program  
and the Salmon-in-Schools Program.



**>> Over 500,000 adult trout and 300,000 fry & fingerlings are produced for distribution in Connecticut's three state fish hatcheries each year.**

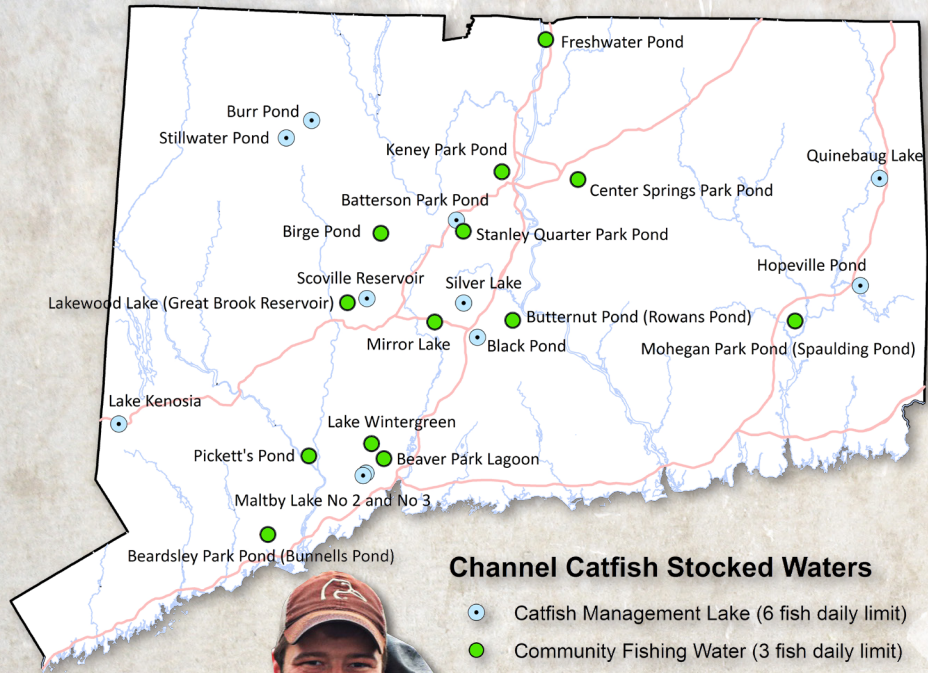




## Channel Catfish:

### Channel Catfish Stocking

- Stocked as adults (14" or more).
- The purchase of channel catfish is provided through federal Sport Fish Restoration program funding.
- Excellent to eat, try blackened, Cajun, deep fried, or broiled).
- Reach large size (CT record = 29 lbs. 6 oz.).
- Are easy to catch year-round.
- Statewide regulations for catfish: 6 fish per day creel limit, no length limit. In selected areas stocked with catfish, 3 fish per day creel limit.

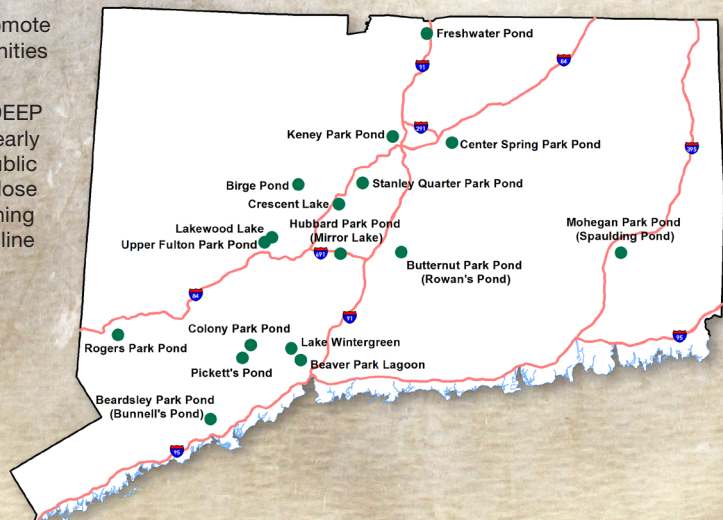


## Community Fishing Waters Program:

DEEP and local communities working together to promote natural resources and outdoor recreation opportunities within urban neighborhoods.

As part of the community fishing waters program DEEP stocks trout (spring), channel catfish (late spring/early summer), or both, into waters on or close to public transportation routes. Stocking these waters within close proximity to tens of thousands brings a high quality fishing experience to many CT residents. Be sure to cast a line into one of our Community Fishing Waters today!

Scan the code for more information about the Community Fishing Waters Program:





# Record Freshwater Fish

Red type signifies a new record set in 2020.

COMMON NAME	WEIGHT lbs. oz.	LOCATION CAUGHT	ANGLER	YEAR CAUGHT
American Eel	10 3	Shetucket River, Norwich	Charles J. Lobacz	1993
American Shad	9 4	Connecticut River, Windsor	Edward Cypus	1981
Bluegill	2 4	Private Pond, Madison	Daniel Gesner	1996
Bowfin	9 0	Connecticut River, Glastonbury	Jack Dugay	2019
Brook Trout	9 3	Blackwells Brook, Brooklyn	David Andes	1998
Brown Bullhead	4 15	Prospect Pond, Southington	Robert Richey	1990
Brown Trout	19 0	West Hill Pond, Barkhamsted/New Hartford	James M. Lucas II	2014
Brown Trout (Sea-run)	10 8	Saugatuck River, Westport	Ronald J. Merly	2006
Calico Bass	4 0	Pataganset Lake, East Lyme	James M. Boos	1974
Chain Pickerel	8 9	West Twin Lake, Salisbury	Alden L. Foss	2005
Channel Catfish	29 6	Mashapaug Lake, Union	Appleton Barrows	2004
Common Carp	43 12	Connecticut River, Middletown	Michael Hudak	2012
Fallfish	2 4	Farmington River, Simsbury	Chad Tushman	2012
Kokanee (tie)	2 14	East Twin Lake, Salisbury	Tom Pasko	2011
		West Hill Pond Barkhamsted, New Hartford	Seth Harris	2018
Lake Trout	29 13	Wononscopomuc Lake, Salisbury	Dr. Thompson	1918
Largemouth Bass	12 14	Mashapaug Lake, Union	Frank Domurat	1961
Northern Pike (tie)	29 0	Lake Lillinonah, Brookfield	Joseph Nett	1980
		West Branch Reservoir, Colebrook/Hartland	Leslie Slater	2020
Pumpkinseed	1 3	Lake Marie, Windham	Robyn Rogers	1973
Rainbow Trout	14 10	Mansfield Hollow Reservoir, Mansfield	Michael V. Ludlow	1998
Rock Bass (tie)	1 3	Colebrook Reservoir, Colebrook	Ernie Gonsalves	1989
		Shenipsit Lake, Tolland	James Bonan	1995
Smallmouth Bass	7 12	Shenipsit Lake, Tolland	Joseph Mankauskas, Jr.	1980
Tiger Trout	7 14	Quassapaug Lake	Jerry Barth	2011
Walleye	15 4	Beach Pond, Voluntown	Vincent Deledda	2015
White Catfish	12 12	Connecticut River, Middletown	John L. Shatas	1999
White Perch	3 1	Crystal Lake, Ellington	Jacob Niemczyk	2018
White Sucker	3 5	Wepawaug River, Orange	Jeffrey Bolliger	2019
Yellow Perch	2 13	Black Pond, Woodstock	Miller B. Bassett	1973

The Fisheries Division understands that for a variety of reasons, many people prefer to release their trophy catch. As such, the Fisheries Division will now recognize a state record for Catch and Release. This record is the largest fish by length, submitted to the Fisheries Division with appropriate documentation (page 12-13). **The following are the Catch and Release State Records as of the end of 2020. Good luck and be sure to send us your Catch and Release record fish!**

COMMON NAME	LENGTH (IN INCHES)	LOCATION CAUGHT	ANGLER	YEAR CAUGHT
American Eel	41	Lake Terramuggus, Marlborough	Daniel E.S. Kornegay III	2011
Bluegill (tie)	10.5	Andover Lake, Andover	Doane, Greogry	2015
	10.5	Private Pond, Killingworth	Evan Kamoen	2018
	10.5	Private Pond, Rocky Hill	Ted Munette	2015
Bowfin (tie)	27	Connecticut River, Portland	Michael Kelley	2019
	27	Connecticut River, Middletown	Joseph A. Netolicky	2019
Brook Trout	21.25	Natchaug River, Chaplin	Nicholas Burnore	2010
Brown Bullhead	17.5	Saugatuck Reservoir, Redding	Keith Bonenfant	2016
Brown Trout	27.5	Wononskopomuc Lake, Salisbury	Paul Liphardt	2016
Calico Bass	19	Candlewood Lake, Danbury	Evan Kamoen	2016
Chain Pickerel	33	West Hill Pond, Barkhamsted	Mark R. Popolizio	2013
Channel Catfish	36	Game Club Pond, Chaplin	Colby Kerttula	2020
Common Carp	42	Connecticut River, Hartford	Michael Hudak	2012
Fallfish	17	Bladens River, Seymour	William Hein	2020
Hybrid Sunfish (tie)	10.5	Private Pond, Cheshire	James Robitaille	2014
	10.5	Risley Reservoir, Vernon	Ryan McKinney	2019
Kokanee Salmon	20	East Twin Lake, Salisbury	Timothy E. Kilbride	2010
Lake Trout	25.75	Squantz Pond, New Fairfield/Sherman	Derek Handberry	2020
Largemouth Bass	25.25	Lake Pocotopaug, East Hampton	Daniel E.S. Kornegay III	2008
Northern Pike	45.75	Housatonic River, Falls Village	David L. Jones	2009
Pumpkinseed (tie)	10	Lake McDonough, Barkhamsted	Ellie Fiorentino	2012
	10	Lake McDonough, Barkhamsted	Joey Takeman	2014
Rainbow Trout	30	Scoville Reservoir, Wolcott	Michael Thureson	2010
Redbreast Sunfish	10.25	Lake Terramuggus, Marlborough	Daniel E.S. Kornegay III	2018
Rock Bass	12.75	Housatonic River, Kent	Daniel E.S. Kornegay III	2008
Smallmouth Bass	24.25	Farmington River, Windsor	Jacob Long	2018
Tiger Trout	22	Woodbridge Lake, Goshen	Cristian Cifaldi	2018
Walleye	30	Lake Pocotopaug, East Hampton	Daniel E.S. Kornegay III	2010
White Catfish	25.5	Salmon River, East Haddam	Shawn Sims	2012
White Sucker	20	Farmington River, Farmington	Michael S. Swirzewski	2013
Yellow Perch	16.25	Lake McDonough, New Hartford	Ron Barbour	2011



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# Lakes & Ponds










Statewide regulations for seasons, legal methods, and limits (page 21) apply unless a site-specific regulation is listed for a waterbody.

The following lakes and ponds are available for public fishing through the courtesy of the owners or state ownership.

Determining fishing regulations is a simple two-step process:

1. Check the regulation table (page 21) for general statewide Species, Legal Methods, and Limits regulations.
2. Look up the **waterbody** in the alphabetical list of lake and ponds to find any **special regulations** that apply. If no site-specific regulations are listed for a waterbody, statewide regulations apply.

## Lake and Pond Legend

-  Public boat launching area
-  Cartop boat launching area
-  Facilities for those with disabilities
-  State campground
-  Shore fishing access
-  Family friendly fishing location
-  State picnic area
-  Fishing line recycling receptacle
-  Trout & Salmon Stamp needed to fish in this area

*Italics* Access/stocking information

(T SMB) Most common species (those in **bold type** should provide the best fishing) — see key to fish species abbreviations at right

## Key to Fish Species Abbreviations

American eel .....	AE	rainbow smelt .....	RA
brown bullhead.....	BB	smallmouth bass .....	SMB
common carp.....	CA	sunfish.....	S
calico bass.....	CB	tiger muskie.....	TM
chain pickerel.....	CP	trout.....	T
channel catfish.....	CC	walleye.....	WA
kokanee salmon.....	CK	white catfish.....	WC
largemouth bass.....	LMB	white perch.....	WP
northern pike.....	NP	yellow perch .....	YP

**BASS**  
**TROUT**  
**KOKANEE**  
**NORTHERN PIKE**  
**WALLEYE**  
**CATFISH**  
**COMMUNITY FISHING**  
**WATERS**  
**TROPHY CARP WATERS**

Special Management Lakes are color-coded for major gamefish species

**ALLEN BROOK POND**, Wallingford, (see Wharton Pond)

**ALEXANDER LAKE**, Killingly (215 acres)

- **Note:** No public access.
- **Species:** (LMB SMB CP S BB WP YP)
- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Other:** The possession and use of any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait is prohibited. Motor size limit—12 cu in (Approx. 10 hp).

**AMOS LAKE**, Preston (113 acres)

**TROUT MANAGEMENT LAKE / BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE**

- **Species:** (T CP LMB BB AE YP S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–March 31.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 18" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 1 may be 18" or greater.
- **Trout:** From March 1–March 31, Daily creel limit—1, 16" minimum length.
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit. See 2021 Boater's Guide for summer exemption.

**ANDERSON POND** (Blue Lake), North Stonington (57 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB CP CB S BB YP)

**ANGUS PARK POND** (Eastbury Pond), Glastonbury (9.4 acres)



- **Species:** (T CP LMB S BB YP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–October 31.
- **Other:** Boats and canoes prohibited.

**ASHLAND POND**, Griswold (89 acres)

- **Species:** (LMB CP YP S)

**ASPINOOK POND**, Lisbon/Griswold/Canterbury (301 acres)

*Informal boat access off Butts Bridge Road, no facilities. Commercial launch (fee charged) at private campground off Ross Hill Road.*

- **Species:** (LMB WP YP S CA CB)
- **Other:** Butts Bridge is the demarcation line between the pond and the Quinebaug River.

**AVERY POND**, Preston (36 acres)



- **Species:** (CP LMB YP BB S)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

**BABCOCK POND**, Colchester (119 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB YP S CP BB)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

**BACKWATER POND**, Thompson



- **Season:** Open year-round.

**BALDWIN'S POND**, Meriden (5.4 acres)



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

**BALL POND**, New Fairfield (83 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB BB S YP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Vessels with motors attached prohibited.

**BANTAM LAKE**, Morris-Litchfield (947 acres)

**NORTHERN PIKE LAKE**

- **Species:** (NP SMB LMB WP CB YP S BB)
- **Northern Pike:**
  - » May 1–Nov. 30: Daily creel limit—2, 26" minimum length.
  - » Dec. 1–last day Feb.: Daily creel limit—1, 36" minimum length.
  - » March 1–April 30: Closed to northern pike fishing.
- **All Other Species:** Open year round, statewide regulations apply.

- **Other:** Motors prohibited 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. Use of internal combustion motors prohibited on the Bantam River between Bantam Lake and the inlet to Little Pond.

**BARBER POND**, Bloomfield (9.4 acres)

- **Species:** (S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Boats and canoes prohibited except between May 16 and October 31. Use of all motors prohibited.

**BASHAN LAKE**, East Haddam (273 acres)



**BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE**

- **Species:** (T LMB SMB CP CB YP S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** 35 mph speed limit days, 6 mph limit ½ hour after sunset to 8 a.m.

**BATTERSON PARK POND**, Farmington (140 acres)



**WALLEYE LAKE / CATFISH LAKE / TROPHY CARP WATERS**

- **Channel catfish first stocked in 2013.**
- **Species:** (CB YP WP S LMB WA CC)
- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Carp:** Daily creel limit—1, 26" maximum length.
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

The boating laws and regulations provided in this guide are brief summaries of selected state boating safety statutes and regulations, and local ordinances. For complete boating regulations and additional information, please refer to the *2021 Connecticut Boater's Guide* which can be obtained from the DEEP Boating Division (860-434-8638).



**Lakes and Ponds open year-round (no closed season) unless otherwise stated.**

**BAUMMER POND**, Naugatuck (2.7 acres)



- **Species:** (T BB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

**BEACH POND**,

Voluntown – Rhode Island (372 acres)



**WALLEYE LAKE**

- **Species:** (T K LMB SMB CP S YP WA)
- **Note:** Connecticut or Rhode Island fishing license legal on entire pond. Rhode Island regulations apply for bass and pickerel.
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—5 bass, 12" minimum length.
- **Chain Pickerel:** Daily creel limit—5, 14" minimum length.
- **Broodstock Atlantic salmon have been stocked several times into this lake, first in 2007 and most recently in December, 2015. Regulations for salmon are the same as for trout except:** Daily creel limit—1 Atlantic salmon.
- **All Other Species:** CT Statewide regulations apply.
- **Other:** No more than six tip-ups may be used when ice-fishing.

**BEACHDALE POND**, Voluntown (46 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB T YP BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

**BEACHLAND POND**, West Hartford (1.1 acres)

- **Species:** (S)
- **Season:** Open year-round.

**BEAVER BROOK PONDS**,

(Bibbins Ponds), Windham (20 acres)



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Boats and canoes prohibited except from May 16 to October 31. Motors prohibited.

**BEAVER PARK LAGOON**,

New Haven (8.5 acres)



**COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS**

Trout and Channel Catfish first stocked in 2014.

- **Species:** (CC T AE LMB CA S BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–October 31.
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit—3 catfish.

**BESSECK LAKE**, Middlefield (116 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB YP CB S)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit. See 2021 Boater's Guide for summer exemption.

**BESSE PARK POND**, Torrington (4.5 acres)



- **Species:** (S)
- **Season:** Open year-round.

**BICENTENNIAL POND** (Mansfield Town Pond), Mansfield (6 acres)



- **Species:** (T S LMB BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–October 31.

**BIGELOW POND**, Union (25 acres)



- **Species:** (T YP LMB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

**BILLINGS LAKE**, North Stonington (97 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB YP CP S CB BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April to last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.

**BIRGE POND**, Bristol (15.8 acres)



**COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS**

Trout and Channel Catfish first stocked in 2014.

- **Species:** (T, CC, S)
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit—3 catfish.
- **Trout:** Season open 2nd Saturday in April–last day February.
- **All Other Species:** Season open year round.

**BISHOP SWAMP** (Jurovaty Pond), Andover (53 acres)

Informal cartop launch.

- **Species:** (LMB CB S BB)
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

**BLACK POND**, Meriden-Middlefield (76 acres)



**BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE / CATFISH LAKE**

Channel catfish first stocked in 2007.

- **Species:** (T LMB CP BB CB S CC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

**BLACK POND**, Woodstock (74 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB SMB CP YP BB S CB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Motors limited to 5 hp.

**CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021 (SEE PAGE 20):**

**TROUT MANAGEMENT LAKE**

- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–March 31.
- **Trout:** From March 1–March 31; Daily creel limit—1, 14" minimum length for Brook Trout, 16" minimum length for all other trout.
- **From 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April – last day February, only 1 Brook Trout may be 14" or greater.**

**BLACK ROCK LAKE** (Branch Brook), Watertown (21 acres)



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

**BLACK ROCK POND**, Watertown (9.5 acres)



In Black Rock State Park.

**TROUT PARK**

- **Species:** (T LMB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Other:** All vessels prohibited.

**BLUE LAKE** (see Anderson Pond)

## LOOKING TO GET THE LEAD OUT?

Lead is a metal which, in sufficient quantities, can negatively affect the nervous and reproductive systems of animals and humans. Most fishing jigs and sinkers have historically been made with lead.

Wildlife such as eagles, loons, and other waterfowl can be poisoned by lead they've consumed. Hooked fish can ingest or retain attached lead fishing tackle such as hooks and jigs, and become a potential pathway of lead exposure for predatory birds consuming fish containing such lead fishing gear. In addition, lost or discarded lead fishing weights and other lead fishing tackle of smaller sizes can be ingested by wildlife, particularly dabbling and diving water birds such as swans, ducks, geese and loons.

There are alternatives to lead, made from non-poisonous materials such as tin, bismuth, steel, tungsten and glass that are available at established sporting goods retailers and on the internet. These will be more expensive than lead, but will be more environmentally benign, and as demand continues to grow, prices are expected to drop.

Consider asking for non-lead alternatives when purchasing new tackle or replacing old.

Websites for more information on lead sinkers include:

- **Minnesota Pollution Control Agency:** [www.pca.state.mn.us/sinkers](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/sinkers)
- **US EPA:** <http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/fishshellfish/animals.cfm>
- **NY DEC:** <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7908.html>

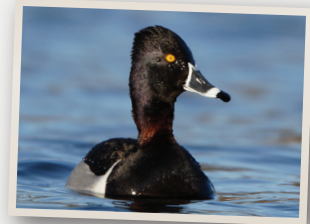


Image courtesy of CT DEEP Wildlife — Paul Fusco

# Lakes & Ponds

Statewide regulations for seasons, legal methods, and limits (page 21) apply unless a site-specific regulation is listed for a waterbody.

**BOLTON LAKES** (Lower, Middle, Upper), Bolton-Coventry-Vernon (346 acres)



## BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- Species: (YP BB CP LMB SMB S)
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** Motors limited to 6 hp.

**BOLTON NOTCH POND**, Bolton (17 acres)



Informal cartop launch.

- **Species:** (LMB S YP)

**BRANFORD SUPPLY PONDS**, Branford (26 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB S CP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

**BREAKNECK POND**, Union-Massachusetts (92 acres)



Walk-in access (approximately 1.2 miles from north end of Bigelow Pond).

- **Note:** Connecticut or Massachusetts license legal on entire pond.
- **Species:** (S YP CB CP LMB)
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited. Motor vehicle access prohibited.

**BROAD BROOK MILLPOND**, East Windsor (19 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB YP S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Motors prohibited.

**BULL POND**, Harwinton (20 acres)

Informal cartop access.

- **Species:** (BB LMB CB)
- **Other:** Motors prohibited.

**BUNNELLS POND** (Beardsley Park Pond), Bridgeport (33 acres)



## COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS / CATFISH LAKE

- Channel catfish first stocked in 2007.
- **Species:** (S CC T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit — 3 catfish.
- **Other:** Ice fishing prohibited.

**BURR POND**, Torrington (85 acres)



## CATFISH LAKE

Channel catfish first stocked in 2013.

- **Species:** (BB LMB S CC BC CP)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.
- **Season:** Open year-round.

**BUTTERNUT POND**, East Windsor (1.4 acres)

**BUTTERNUT PARK POND, MIDDLETOWN (2.9 ACRES). (SEE ROWAN'S POND)**

**CANDLEWOOD LAKE**, Danbury-New Fairfield-Sherman-New Milford-Brookfield (5064 acres)



## TROUT MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (T LMB SMB YP WC WP CB BB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–March 31.
- **Trout:** From March 1–March 31; Daily creel limit—1, 16" minimum length.
- **Other:** 45 mph daytime speed limit, 25 mph from ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise.

**CEDAR LAKE**, Chester (69 acres)



## WALLEYE LAKE

Walleye first stocked in 2012.

- **Species:** (T YP LMB CP BB S WA)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** 6 mph speed limit.

**CENTER SPRINGS PARK POND**, Manchester (11.8 acres)



## COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS

Trout and Channel Catfish first stocked in 2015.

- **Species:** (CC, T, S)
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit- 3 catfish.
- **Trout:** Season open 2nd Saturday in April–last day February.
- **All Other Species:** Season open year round.

**CHATFIELD HOLLOW POND (SEE SCHREEDER POND)**

**LAKE CHAMBERLAIN**, Bethany (107 acres)

## BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (LMB CP S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.

- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit; Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.

• **Note:** Shore fishing only. Fishing by permit from South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority 203-562-4020.

**CHRISTENSEN'S POND**, Granby (1.5 acres)



- **Species:** (T S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

**CITY HALL POND**, Milford

- **Species:** (S)
- **Season:** Open year-round.

**CLARKS POND** (Mill River), Hamden



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Boats and canoes prohibited. Pond is on South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority property (203-562-4020) — ice fishing prohibited.

**COLEBROOK RIVER LAKE**, Colebrook-Massachusetts (826 acres)



## BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Note:** Connecticut or Massachusetts fishing license legal on entire pond from demarcation posters downstream to the dam.
- **Species:** (T RA LMB SMB WC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit; Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** 20 mph speed limit. The possession and use of any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait is prohibited.

**COLONY POND** (Abe Stone Park Pond), Ansonia (3.6 acres)



## COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS

Trout first stocked in 2015.

- **Species:** (T, LMB, S, CC)
- **Trout:** Season open 2nd Saturday in April–last day February.
- **All Other Species:** Season open year round.

**CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021 (SEE PAGE 20):**

- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit- 3 catfish.

**COMPENSATING RESERVOIR** (see Lake McDonough)

**CONGAMOND LAKES**

(South Pond, Middle Pond, and North Pond), Suffield-Massachusetts (465 acres)



- **Note:** Connecticut or Massachusetts fishing license is legal on all three lakes.

• **Species:** (T LMB BB YP CP AE S) Massachusetts regulations apply as follows:

- **Season:** open year-round.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—3
- **Bass:** Daily creel limit—5, 12" minimum length.
- **Chain pickerel:** Daily creel limit—5, 15" minimum length.
- **Other:** Not more than two hooks may be used during periods of open water fishing and not more than five hooks may be used when ice fishing. Any sinker or weight made from lead that weighs less than 1 ounce, and any lead jig (meaning any lead-weighted hook) that weighs less than 1 ounce, is prohibited for use in all inland waters of the Commonwealth. The term lead sinker shall not include any other sinkers, weights, fishing lures or fishing tackle including, but not limited to, artificial lures, hooks, weighted flies, and lead-core or other weighted fishing lines.

**COVENTRY LAKE** (Wangumbaug Lake), Coventry (373 acres)



## BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE / WALLEYE LAKE

- **Species:** (T YP LMB SMB WA S CB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** The possession and use of any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait is prohibited. 6 mph speed limit from sunset to 1 hour after sunrise all days, and on Sundays noon to 4:00 p.m. from May 15 to September 15, and from noon to 2:00 p.m. on July 4. 40 mph limit all other times.

**CRESCENT LAKE**, Southington (51.2 acres)



## COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS

Channel Catfish first stocked in 2019.

- **Species:** (LMB S YP CC CB)
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

**CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021 (SEE PAGE 20):**

- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit- 3 catfish.

**CRYSTAL LAKE**, Ellington-Stafford (183 acres)



## TROUT MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (T YP CP SMB LMB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–March 31.
- **Trout:**
  - » From 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February, 12" to 16" protected

Remember, it's illegal to fish in or cast into a DEEP permitted swim area.

(RSCA §15-121-B12(c))



**Lakes and Ponds open year-round (no closed season) unless otherwise stated.**

slot limit. Daily creel limit—5, only 1 may be 16" or greater.

- » From March 1–March 31; Daily creel limit—1, 16" minimum length.
- **Broodstock Atlantic salmon have been stocked multiple times into this lake, first in 2007 and most recently in October, 2019. Regulations for salmon are the same as for trout except:** Daily creel limit—1 Atlantic salmon.
- **Other:** 6 mph speed limit from sunset to 9 a.m., and on Sundays from noon to 3:00 p.m. 45 mph speed limit at all other times.

**CRYSTAL LAKE, Middletown (32 acres)**



- **Species:** (LMB YP BB S)
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

**DAY POND, Colchester (7.4 acres)**



- **Species:** (T S WC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Other:** All vessels prohibited.

**DODGE POND, East Lyme (34 acres)**



- **Species:** (LMB CB YP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Use of all motors prohibited.

**DOG POND, Goshen (66 acres)**



- **Species:** (LMB CP YP CB BB S)

**DOOLEY POND, Middletown (19 acres)**



- **Species:** (LMB YP S)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

**EAGLEVILLE LAKE, Coventry-Mansfield (77 acres)**



*Brigham Road Bridge (Plains Road) is the demarcation line between the lake and the Willimantic River.*

- **Species:** (LMB SMB CP S YP BB)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

**EASTBURY POND (see Angus Park Pond)**

**EAST TWIN LAKE (Washing Lake), Salisbury (569 acres)**



*Commercial launching ramp, fee charged. Boat livery.*

**TROUT MANAGEMENT LAKE / KOKANEE LAKE**

- **Species:** (T LMB CP YP S BB CB K)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–March 31.

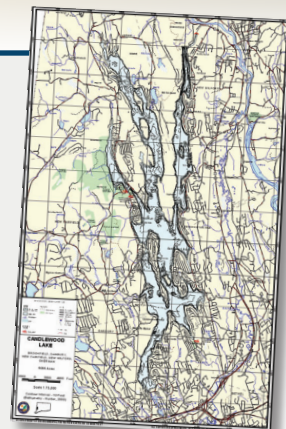
## CANDLEWOOD LAKE DEPTH MAP

**First produced in 2006, Connecticut DEEP's Candlewood Lake depth map has become an angler favorite.**

- Produced using state-of-the-art GPS technology.
- Field work and compilation ran from 1999 to 2005, and the final product is a color chart which measures 23 by 36 inches.
- The best and most current information on Candlewood Lake depths available.
- Maps are fully laminated, so the weather won't damage it.

**Available from the online DEEP Store \$10.95**

- Order by phone: 860-424-3555
- Shop online: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/About/DEEP-Bookstore/The-DEEP-Store>



- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—5, except from March 1–March 31, 16" minimum length, Daily creel limit—1.
- **Trout & Kokanee combined:** Daily creel limit—8 for both species in aggregate, of which no more than 5 may be trout and no more than 5 may be kokanee salmon.
- **Other:** 35 mph daytime speed limit, 6 mph from ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour after sunrise. Also 6 mph within 200 feet of vessel or dock. The possession and use of any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait is prohibited.

**EDGEWOOD PARK POND, New Haven (3 acres)**

- **Season:** Open year-round.

**FACTORY POND (Norwalk River), Redding-Wilton (12 acres)**

- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

**FACTORY POND (Town Grove Pond), Salisbury (2 acres)**



- **Children's Pond:** Fishing restricted to children under age 16.
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.

**FARMILL (ISINGLASS) RESERVOIR, Shelton (4 acres)**

- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–December 31.
- **Species:** (LMB S)
- **Note:** Permit required to fish—contact Aquarion Water company at 203-452-3511.

**FERNRIDGE PARK POND, West Hartford (0.7 acres)**

- **Species:** (S)
- **Season:** Open year-round.

**FISHER MEADOWS POND (SPRING LAKE), AVON (41 ACRES)**



*Within Fisher Meadows Park.*

- **Species:** (LMB CA S)
- **Other:** Ice fishing prohibited by town ordinance.

**FITCHVILLE POND, Bozrah (59 acres)**

- **Species:** (T LMB CP S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

**FOUNTAIN LAKE RESERVOIR,**

Ansonia-Seymour (6 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

**FRESHWATER POND (Freshwater Brook), Enfield (8 acres)**



**COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS**

*Catfish first stocked in 2012.*

- **Species:** (T, CC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit—3 catfish.

**GARDNER LAKE, Salem-Montville-Bozrah (529 acres)**



- **BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE / WALLEYE LAKE**
- **Species:** (T SMB LMB YP CP CB S WA BB WC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—2, 16" minimum length.
- **Other:** 6 mph speed limit from sunset to 8:00 a.m.

**GAY CITY POND, Hebron (5.1 acres)**



- **Species:** (T CP BB YP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** All vessels prohibited.

**GLASGO POND, Griswold (168 acres)**



- **Species:** (LMB YP BB CB S)

**GOODWIN PARK PONDS, HARTFORD (4 ACRES)**



- **Species:** (S)
- **Other:** No fishing allowed from the golf course grounds.

**GORTON POND, East Lyme (52 acres)**



- **Species:** (LMB CB YP BB S)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

**GOULD MANOR POND, Fairfield (2 acres)**

- **Children's Pond:** Fishing restricted to children under age 16.
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.

**GREAT HILL POND, Portland (76 acres)**

*Informal cartop/carry-in access only (30 yards).*

- **Species:** (LMB CP YP CB S BB WC)
- **Other:** Motors limited to 6 hp or less. 12 mph speed limit.

**GREAT HOLLOW POND, Monroe (15 acres)**



*Within Wolfe Park.*

- **TROUT PARK**
- **Species:** (T YP S LMB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

# Lakes & Ponds

Statewide regulations for seasons, legal methods, and limits (page 21) apply unless a site-specific regulation is listed for a waterbody.

**GREEN FALLS RESERVOIR** (Green Falls Pond), Voluntown (48 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB BB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

**GRIGGS POND**, Woodstock (38 acres)



- Walk in access from Route 198 (200 yards).*
- **Species:** (LMB YP S BB)
  - **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

**HALLS POND**, Eastford-Ashford (82 acres)



## BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (LMB S YP CB CP)
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

**HALLVILLE POND** (Indiantown Brook), Preston (10 acres)

*Informal cartop access.*

- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

**HAMILTON RESERVOIR**, Union-Massachusetts (412 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB SMB YP CB S BB)
- **Note:** Connecticut or Massachusetts fishing license legal on entire pond. Massachusetts regulations apply as follows:
- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—3
- **Large & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—5 total, 12" minimum length.
- **Chain pickerel:** Daily creel limit—5, 15" minimum length.
- **Northern pike:** Daily creel limit—1, 28" minimum length.
- **Other:** Not more than two hooks may be used during periods of open water fishing and not more than five hooks may be used when ice fishing. Any sinker or weight made from lead that weighs less than 1 ounce, and any lead jig (meaning any lead-weighted hook) that weighs less than 1 ounce, is prohibited for use in all inland waters of the Commonwealth. The term lead sinker shall not include any other sinkers, weights, fishing lures or fishing tackle including, but not limited to, artificial lures, hooks, weighted flies, and lead-core or other weighted fishing lines.

**HAMPTON RESERVOIR**, Hampton-Eastford (88 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB YP CP S BB)
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

**HANCOCK BROOK LAKE**, Plymouth (20 acres)



*Open 8:00 a.m. to sunset (but no later than 8:00 pm). Walk-in access only after Labor Day weekend (September 6, 2021) until the weekend before Memorial Day weekend (May 21, 2021).*

- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

**HANOVER POND**, Meriden (70 acres)

*Town operated boat launch.*

- **Species:** (LMB S)
- **Other:** Steerage speed only.

**HANOVER RESERVOIR**, Canterbury-Sprague (21 acres)

*Walk-in access (approximately 600 yards from Little River Road in Canterbury).*

- **Species:** (T LMB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

**HATCH POND**, Kent (72 acres)



- **Species:** (YP BB CP LMB CB S)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

**LAKE HAYWARD** (Shaw Lake), East Haddam (174 acres)



## BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (LMB YP CP S CB BB AE)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

**HELEN KELLER SCHOOL POND**, Easton



- **Children's Pond:** Fishing restricted to children under age 16.
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.

**HEWITT FLYFISHING POND** (Gallup Pond), North Stonington (2 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB YP S BB)
- **Methods:** Fly fishing only.
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–October 31.
- **Other:** All vessels prohibited.

**HEWITT POND** (Lower Hewitt Pond), North Stonington (2 acres)

- **Species:** (T S BB)

- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Operation of vessels with motors, except for electric motors, is prohibited.

**HIGGANUM RESERVOIR**, Haddam (31 acres)



- Public right-of-way, passable for cars.*
- **Species:** (T S)
  - **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
  - **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

**HIGHLAND LAKE**, Winchester (445 acres)



## TROUT MANAGEMENT LAKE / BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (T LMB YP SMB CB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–March 31.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—2, 16" minimum length.
- **Trout:**
  - » From 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February, 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—5, only 1 may be 16" or greater.
  - » From March 1–March 31; Daily creel limit—1, 16" minimum length.
- **Other:** 6 mph speed limit from ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise (and from 5 p.m. on Sundays from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day). 45 mph speed limit on weekends and holidays.

**HODGE POND**, Voluntown (10 acres)

*Public right-of-way, carry-in access.*

- **Species:** (LMB CP YP S BB)

**HOGBACK RESERVOIR** (see West Branch Reservoir)

**HOLBROOK POND**, Hebron (83 acres)



- Handicapped access at dam.*
- **Species:** (LMB YP CB S)
  - **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

**HOP BROOK LAKE**, Middlebury (26 acres)



- Open 8:00 a.m. to sunset (but no later than 8:00 pm). Walk-in access only after Labor Day weekend (September 6, 2021) until the weekend before Memorial Day weekend (May 21, 2021).*
- **Species:** (T) **Note:** Trout stocking discontinued due to limited spring recreational access.
  - **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
  - **Other:** Vessels with motors, except electric, prohibited. No ice fishing.

**HOPE LAKE** (see Nells Rock Reservoir)

**HOPEVILLE POND**, Griswold (137 acres)



## CATFISH LAKE

*Channel catfish first stocked in 2012. Launch open from Opening Day to early October.*

- **Species:** (LMB NP CP S WP YP T CC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

**HOPEWELL POND/LAKE HOPEWELL** (see Huntington Pond)

**HORSE POND**, Salem (13 acres)



- **Species:** (T S BB CP LMB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Trout:** Statewide daily creel limit (5) now applies.
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

**LAKE HOUSATONIC**, Shelton-Derby-Monroe-Oxford-Seymour (328 acres)



*From the Stevenson Dam to the Derby Dam. Boat launch at Indian Well State Park, opens for daytime (8:00 a.m. to sunset) use on April 1st (no other amenities until mid-May). Park officially closes September 30th. Note: boating/fishing access may continue past this date. Contact Park Manager (203-735-4311) for information concerning status of fall boating and fishing access.*

## BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (SMB LMB WC WP YP AE S CA)
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—2, 16" minimum length.
- **Other:** Minimum steerage speed within 25 ft of shore or dock. 45 mph speed limit daytime, 25 mph from ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise.

**HOWELLS POND**, Hartland (14 acres)



*Public right-of-way, passable for cars.*

- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

**HUNTINGTON POND** (Starret Pond, Lake Hopewell, Huntington Park Pond), Redding (15 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

**HURLBURT POND**, Putnam (3 acres)



- **Season:** Open year-round.



## Lakes and Ponds open year-round (no closed season) unless otherwise stated.

### HYDE POND, Ledyard (5.4 acres)



- **Species:** (T)

### INDIAN LAKE (Indian Pond), Sharon-New York (196 acres)

- **Note:** Connecticut or New York fishing license legal on entire pond. New York regulations apply for large & smallmouth bass.
- **Species:** (LMB YP)
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Season—Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.
- **All Other Species:** Season—Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–March 31.
- **Other:** Not more than five tip-ups and two hand-held jigs allowed for ice fishing.

### ISINGLASS RESERVOIR (see Farmill Reservoir)

### KAATZ POND, Trumbull (2 acres)

- **Children's Pond:** Fishing restricted to children under age 16.
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.

### KEACH POND (see Peck Pond)

### KENEY PARK POND, Hartford (3 acres)



#### COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS / CATFISH LAKE

- **Channel catfish** first stocked in 2007.
- **Species:** (T S CC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit—3 catfish.

### LAKE KENOSIA, Danbury (60 acres)



#### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (LMB S BB YP CC)
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** Operating a boat propelled by an internal combustion engine prohibited.

### KILLINGLY POND, Killingly-Rhode Island (122 acres)

- **Note:** Connecticut or Rhode Island fishing license legal on entire pond.
- **Species:** (LMB SMB S YP CP)
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—5 bass, 12" minimum length.
- **Chain Pickerel:** Daily creel limit—5, 14" minimum length.
- **All Other Species:** CT Statewide regulations apply.
- **Other:** No more than six tip-ups may be used when ice-fishing. Motors limited to 12 cu in (approx. 10 hp).

### LAKE OF ISLES, North Stonington (89 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB CP YP CB S BB)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

### LAKEVILLE LAKE (see Wononskopomuc Lake)

### LAKEWOOD LAKE (Great Brook Reservoir), Waterbury (73 acres)



#### COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS / CATFISH LAKE

- **Channel catfish** first stocked in 2008.
- **Species:** (LMB S CC YP WP)
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit—3 catfish.

### LANTERN HILL POND, Ledyard-North Stonington (23 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB CP CB YP S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

### LEONARD POND, Kent (20 acres)



- **Species:** (YP CB CP BB LMB)

### LAKE LILLINONAH, Brookfield-Bridgewater-Newtown-Southbury-New Milford (1547 acres)



From Bleachery Dam to the Shepaug Dam.

- **Species:** (LMB SMB WP CB WC NP TM S CA YP)
- **Other:** 45 mph speed limit daytime, 25 mph from ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise.

#### CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021 (SEE PAGE 20):

- **Northern Pike & Tiger Muskie:** Daily creel limit—1 pike or muskie, 38" minimum length.

### LILLY POND, Thompson (7.4 acres)

- **Season:** Open year-round.

### LITTLE POND (Little Bantam), Litchfield (15 acres)

- **Species:** (NP LMB YP S BB)
- **Northern Pike:**
  - » May 1–Nov. 30: Daily creel limit—2, 26" minimum length.
  - » Dec. 1–last day Feb.: Daily creel limit—1, 36" minimum length.
  - » March 1–April 30: Closed to northern pike fishing.
- **All Other Species:** Open year round, statewide regulations apply.

### LITTLE POND (Schoolhouse Pond), Thompson (65 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB YP CP CB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

### LONG POND, Ledyard-North Stonington (109 acres)



#### WALLEYE LAKE

- Walleye first stocked in 2017.
- **Species:** (T CP LMB CB YP S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** 5 mph speed limit.

### LOWER FULTON PARK POND, Waterbury (2.8 acres)



- **Species:** (S)
- **Season:** Open year-round.

### LOWER STORRS PUMPING POND, Mansfield (2 acre)



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

### MAD RIVER FLOOD CONTROL IMPOUNDMENT, Winchester (7.9 acres)



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** All vessels prohibited.

### MALTBY LAKES (1,2,3), Orange-West Haven (19, 23 & 25 acres)



#### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE / CATFISH LAKE

- **Channel catfish** first stocked into Maltby Lakes 2 & 3 in 2007.
- **Species:** (T LMB S YP CC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Note:** Shore fishing only. Fishing by permit from South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority 203-562-4020.

### MAMANASCO LAKE, Ridgefield (89 acres)



#### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (LMB S YP BB CB)
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

### MANITOOK LAKE, Granby (57 acres)

- **Species:** (LMB S)
- **Note:** Ice fishing permitted on weekends only.
- **Other:** 5 mph speed limit in restricted areas. Use of motors in excess of 7-½ hp prohibited on Saturdays.

### MANSFIELD HOLLOW RESERVOIR (Naubesatuck Lake), Mansfield-Chaplin-Windham (460 acres)



#### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE / NORTHERN PIKE LAKE

- **Species:** (CP LMB NP T YP S CB)
- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit. Swimming prohibited.

### MANSFIELD TOWN POND (see Bicentennial Pond)

### MANSFIELD TRAINING SCHOOL PONDS, Mansfield (1.1 & 2.3 acres)



- **Species:** (T S BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

### MASHAUG LAKE, Union (287 acres)



#### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE / WALLEYE LAKE

- **Species:** (T LMB SMB CP YP S WA)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** 10 mph speed limit.

### LAKE MCDONOUGH (Compensating Reservoir), New Hartford-Barkhamsted (391 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB SMB YP S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.
- **Note:** 10 mph motorboat speed limit. Boat launch owned and operated by MDC (\$6.00 parking fee, \$6.00 launching fee). Launch area open from 2nd Saturday April through Labor Day. Boat launch hours: 10:00 a.m.–sunset weekdays, 8:00 a.m.–sunset weekends, except 6:00 a.m.–sunset on Opening Day. Boats must be off lake by 7:30 p.m. Reservoir shore fishing access from sunrise to 9:00 p.m. (except from 6:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. on Opening Day). Visit MDC at [www.themdc.com](http://www.themdc.com) or call (860-379-3036, 860-379-0916) for updated fees, hours and other information.

### MCGOVERN POND, West Hartford (1 acre)

- **Species:** (S LMB T)
- **Season:** Open year-round.

#### CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021 (SEE PAGE 20):

#### TROUT PARK

- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2. Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.

# Lakes & Ponds

Statewide regulations for seasons, legal methods, and limits (page 21) apply unless a site-specific regulation is listed for a waterbody.

## MCGRATH PARK POND

(PROSPECT PARK POND), Prospect. (1 acre)



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–October 31.

## MESSERSCHMIDT POND,

Deep River–Westbrook (73 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB CP S BB YP AE BC)
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

## MILL POND, Newington (2.7 acres)

- **Children's Pond:** Fishing restricted to children under age 16.
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.

## MILL WOODS PARK POND,

Wethersfield (7.3 acres)

- **Season:** Open year-round.

## MILLERS POND, Durham (33 acres)



- Carry in boat access (300 yards).
- **Species:** (LMB YP T S)
  - **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
  - **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

## MIRROR LAKE (Hubbard Park Pond), Meriden (7.4 acres)



### COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS

Trout and Channel Catfish first stocked in 2014.

- **Species:** (T, CC)
- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit - 3 catfish.
- **Trout:** Season open 2nd Saturday in April–last day February.
- **All Other Species:** Season open year round.
- **Other:** Ice fishing prohibited by town ordinance.

## MITCHELL POND, East Haddam (4 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB S)
- **Other:** Boats and canoes prohibited.

## MOHAWK POND, Cornwall–Goshen (16 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Use of all motors prohibited.

**CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021  
(SEE PAGE 20):**

### TROUT MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–March 31.
- **Trout:** From March 1–March 31; Daily creel limit—1, 14" minimum length for Brook Trout, 16" minimum length for all other trout.
- **From 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April – last day February, only 1 Brook Trout may be 14" or greater.**

## MOHEGAN LAKE, Fairfield (15 acres)



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–October 31.

## MOHEGAN PARK POND (Spaulding Pond), Norwich (14 acres)



### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE / TROUT PARK / COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS / CATFISH LAKE

Channel catfish first stocked in 2007.

- **Species:** (T S BB LMB CC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit - 3 catfish.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—2, 16" minimum length.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## MONO POND, Columbia (113 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB YP CP S)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

## MOODUS RESERVOIR (Upper, Lower), East Haddam (486 acres)



### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (LMB CP CB S YP)
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 18" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 1 may be 18" or greater.
- **Other:** 35 mph speed limit days, 6 mph limit ½ hour after sunset to 8 a.m.

## MOOSUP POND, Plainfield (96 acres)

- **Species:** (T S LMB YP BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

## MOREY POND, Union–Ashford (45 acres)



- **Species:** (BB CP LMB YP S)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

## MOUNT TOM POND,

Morris–Litchfield–Washington (56 acres)



### WALLEYE LAKE

Walleye first stocked in 2012.

- **Species:** (T S LMB WA CB CP YP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Broodstock Atlantic salmon have been stocked multiple times into this lake, first in 2009 and most recently in October, 2019. Regulations for salmon are the same as for trout except: Daily creel limit—1 Atlantic salmon.**
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

## MUDDY POND,

Woodstock–Massachusetts (38 acres)

- **Note:** No public access. Connecticut or Massachusetts fishing license legal on entire pond. Connecticut regulations apply.
- **Species:** (LMB CP YP S BB)
- **Other:** 5 hp limit.

## MUDGE POND (Silver Lake), Sharon (207 acres)



### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (LMB CP YP S BB)
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 18" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 1 may be 18" or greater.
- **Other:** Motors limited to 7-½ hp. Speed limit 6 mph. Use of motors prohibited from ½ hour after sunset to sunrise and anytime within 200 feet of town beach.

## NAUBESATUCK LAKE

(see Mansfield Hollow Reservoir)

## NELLS ROCK RESERVOIR (Hope Lake), Shelton (10.3 acres)



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

## NORTH FARMS RESERVOIR, Wallingford (64 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB BB S CP CB)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

## NORTH STREET POND, Milford

- **Season:** Open year-round.

## NORTHFIELD BROOK LAKE, Litchfield (8 acres)



- **Open 8:00 a.m. to sunset. Walk-in access only after Columbus Day until the 2nd Saturday in April.**
- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

## NORTHFIELD CUTLERY COMPANY POND, Litchfield

- **Public right-of-way, passable for cars.**
- **Species:** (LMB S)

## NORWICH POND, Lyme (30 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB S CP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Operation of motorboats prohibited.

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## A FISHERIES GUIDE to LAKES and PONDS OF CONNECTICUT

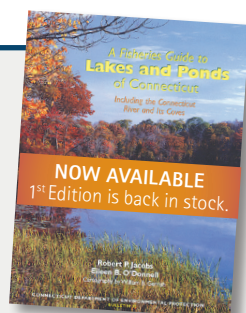
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## Lakes and Ponds open year-round (no closed season) unless otherwise stated.

### PACHAUG POND, Griswold (841 acres)



#### NORTHERN PIKE LAKE

- **Species:** (LMB CP NP WP CB YP S BB)

### PAGE PARK LAGOON, Bristol (1.5 acres)



- **Season:** Open year-round.

### PAINE POND, Ashford (2 acres)



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

### PAPERMILL POND (see Southford Falls Pond), Oxford-Southbury (2.4 acres)

### PARK POND, Winchester (74.9 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB S YP BB CP CB)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

### PASTURE POND, Plainfield



#### TROUT PARK

At Quinebaug Valley State Hatchery

- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–September 30.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

### PATTAGONK LAKE (Russell Jennings Pond), Chester (56 acres)



Carry-in boat access only (75 yards).

#### CATFISH LAKE

Channel catfish first stocked in 2007.

- **Species:** (T LMB YP S CC CB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit. Use of internal combustion engines prohibited during July and August.

### PATTAGANSETT LAKE, East Lyme (128 acres)



#### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (LMB CB S CP YP AE)
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 18" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 1 may be 18" or greater.
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit. See 2021 Boater's Guide for summer exemption.

### PECK POND (Keach Pond), Thompson-Putnam-Rhode Island (14 acres)



- **Note:** Connecticut or Rhode Island fishing license legal on entire pond. Rhode Island regulations apply as follows:
- **Species:** (T LMB SMB CP YP S BB CB)
- **Season:** 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—5 bass, 12" minimum length.
- **Chain Pickerel:** Daily creel limit—5, 14" minimum length.
- **Trout:** No minimum length. Daily creel limit—5 from 2nd Saturday in April to November 30th. Daily creel limit—2 from December 1st to last day February.

### PERRY POND, Thompson-Massachusetts (4 acres)

- **Note:** Connecticut or Massachusetts fishing license legal on entire pond. Connecticut regulations apply.
- **Species:** (LMB CP YP S BB)

### PICKEREL LAKE, Colchester-East Haddam (82 acres)



#### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (LMB CB S CP)
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit. See 2021 Boater's Guide for summer exemption.

### PICKETT'S POND (Osbornedale State Park), Derby (9 acres)



#### COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS

Channel Catfish first stocked in 2012.

- **Species:** (T, CC S BC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit- 3 catfish.

### PIERREPONT POND (Lake Naraneka), Ridgefield (38 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB S)
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

### PINE ACRES LAKE, Hampton (190 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB S YP BB)
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

### PINE LAKE (Shelton Reservoir #2), Shelton (7.3 acres)

- **Species:** (LMB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–December 31.

### LAKE POCOTOPAUG, East Hampton (502 acres)

- **Note:** No public access.
- **Species:** (LMB SMB CP WA WP YP S)
- **Walleye:** Daily creel limit—2, 20" minimum length.

### POWERS LAKE, East Lyme (144 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB CP S YP CB)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

### QUADDICK RESERVOIR, Thompson (408 acres)



Launch open 8 a.m. until sunset from April 13th through the last weekend before October 31.

- **Species:** (LMB CP CB YP BB S)

### LAKE QUASSAPAUG, Woodbury-Middlebury (297 acres)

- **Note:** No public access, icefishing prohibited.
- **Species:** (T SMB S CB BB LMB YP CP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—1, 18" minimum length.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—1 total, 18" minimum length.
- **Other:** 6 mph speed limit, except 25 mph from Tuesday after Labor Day to 3rd Saturday in April. Use of motors prohibited 11 p.m.–6 a.m.

### QUILLINAN RESERVOIR, Ansonia (12.2 acres)

No facilities, walk in access only.

- **Species:** (LMB S YP)

### QUINEBAUG LAKE (Wauregan Reservoir), Killingly (88 acres)



#### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE / CATFISH LAKE

Channel catfish first stocked in 2012.

- **Species:** (T LMB CP S CB YP CC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—2, 16" minimum length.
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

### QUONNIPPAUG LAKE, Guilford (99 acres)



Note: Icefishing prohibited.

#### TROUT MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (T LMB BB SMB CP S YP AE CC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–March 31.
- **Trout:** From March 1–March 31, Daily creel limit—1, 16" minimum length.
- **Other:** Motors limited to 6 hp. Operation of motorboats prohibited from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

### RAINBOW RESERVOIR, Windsor (240 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB SMB S CP YP WP CB BB)
- **Other:** 35 mph speed limit.

### RED CEDAR LAKE, Lebanon (127 acres)



No maintained/developed launch facilities, informal cartop access only.

- **Species:** (LMB YP S CB CP)

### ROGERS LAKE, Lyme-Old Lyme (260 acres)



#### TROUT MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (T LMB CP CB YP BB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–March 31.
- **Trout:** From March 1–March 31, Daily creel limit—1, 16" minimum length.
- **Other:** Motors limited to 135 hp. 6 mph speed limit sunset to 10:00 a.m. See 2021 Boater's Guide for additional restrictions.

### ROGERS PARK POND, Danbury



#### COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS

Channel Catfish and Trout first stocked in 2019.

- **Species:** (CC T S)
- **Trout:** Season open 2nd Saturday April – last day February.
- **All other species:** Season open year-round.

#### CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021

(SEE PAGE 20):

- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit- 3 catfish.

### ROSELAND LAKE, Woodstock (96 acres)



Access courtesy of Roseland Park. Open sunrise to sunset (closed thanksgiving and Christmas), unimproved boat launch, fishing dock. Visit [www.roselandlake.org](http://www.roselandlake.org) for additional information on the park.

- **Species:** (LMB CA CP YP CB S T BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

### ROSS POND, Killingly (31 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB CP S)
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

### ROWAN'S POND

#### (BUTTERNUT PARK POND), Middletown (2.9 acres)



#### COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS

Trout and channel catfish first stocked in 2014.

- **Species:** (T, CC, LMB, S)
- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit- 3 catfish.
- **Trout:** Season open 2nd Saturday in April–last day February.
- **All Other Species:** Season open year round.

### SAINT MARTHA'S POND, Enfield



- **Species:** (T S BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

### SALMON BROOK POND, Glastonbury



- **Species:** (T S YP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

# Lakes & Ponds

Statewide regulations for seasons, legal methods, and limits (page 21) apply unless a site-specific regulation is listed for a waterbody.

## SALTERS POND, Manchester (3 acres)



- **Species:** (S LMB CP)

## LAKE SALTONSTALL, Branford-East Haven (422 acres)



### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE / WALLEYE LAKE

- **Species:** (T LMB S WA CB YP WP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—1 bass, 18" minimum length.
- **Other:** Use of live bait prohibited.
- **Note:** Fishing by permit from South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority 203-401-2654. Boat rentals available (no other vessels allowed).

## SAUGATUCK RESERVOIR, Easton-Redding-Weston (827 acres)



### WALLEYE LAKE

- **Species:** (T LMB SMB S WA)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–December 31.
- **Note:** Permit required to fish—contact Aquarion Water Company at 203-452-3511. Fishing permitted from west shore only.
- **Other:** The possession and use of any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait is prohibited. Boating, wading and flotation devices prohibited.

## SAVIN LAKE, Lebanon (49 acres)



Carry-in boat access (30 yards).

- **Species:** (LMB YP WP S BB CP)
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

## SAWMILL PARK POND, Ledyard



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

## SCHREEDER POND (Chatfield Hollow Pond), Killingworth (4 acres)



In Chatfield Hollow State Park. Walk-in access only during off-season.

### TROUT PARK

- **Species:** (T S YP CP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Other:** All vessels prohibited.

## SCOVILLE RESERVOIR, Wolcott (121 acres)



### CATFISH LAKE

Channel catfish first stocked in 2013.

- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday of April–last day February.
- **Species:** (T LMB S YP CP CB CC)
- **Other:** Operation of vessels prohibited from sunset to sunrise. Use or possession of internal combustion engines prohibited.
- **Note:** Shore-based fishing in the town designated conservation zone is not permitted

## SEYMOUR RESERVOIRS 1, 2, 3 & 4, Oxford (4.4, 35, 11.5 & 37.4 acres)

No facilities, walk-in access only.

- **Species:** (LMB S YP)

## SHAW LAKE (see Lake Hayward)

## SHELTON RESERVOIR #2 (see Pine Lake)

## SHENIPSIT LAKE, Ellington-Tolland-Vernon (532 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB CB SMB WP YP T CP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–October 31.
- **Note:** Use of boats restricted to those stored on site. Contact the Shenipsit Lake Boat Storage Facility (860-875-1850) for additional information concerning fishing access and to check boat storage space availability.
- **Other:** The possession and use of any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait is prohibited.

## SILVER LAKE (Peat Works Pond), Berlin-Meriden (146 acres)



### CATFISH LAKE

Channel catfish first stocked in 2007.

- **Species:** (CB LMB S BB CP CC)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit. See 2021 Boater's Guide for summer exemption.

## SIMSBURY TOWN PARK PONDS, Simsbury

- **Species:** (S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–June 15.

## SOCHRIN POND, Seymour

- **Children's Pond:** Fishing restricted to children under age 16.
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.

## SOMERSVILLE MILL POND (Scantic River), Somers (41 acres)



Unimproved town launch.

- **Species:** (T LMB S CP CB YP BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** 6 mph speed limit.

## SOUTHFORD FALLS POND (Papermill Pond), Oxford-Southbury (2.4 acres)



In Southford Falls State Park.

### TROUT PARK

- **Species:** (T S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## SOUTH SPECTACLE POND, Kent (85 acres)

Public right-of-way, not passable for cars.

- **Species:** (LMB YP S)

## SPAULDING POND (see Mohegan Park Pond)

## SQUANTZ POND, New Fairfield, Sherman (270 acres)



### TROUT MANAGEMENT LAKE / WALLEYE LAKE / TROPHY CARP WATERS

- **Species:** (CA WA T LMB SMB YP S WP)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–March 31.
- **Carp:** Daily creel limit—1, 26" maximum length.
- **Trout:** From March 1–March 31, 16" minimum length, Daily creel limit—1.
- **Other:** Motors on boats launched at Squantz Pond State Park launch ramp limited to 25 hp. 45 mph daytime speed limit, 25 mph from ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise. Fishing from shore prohibited behind fence along shore in State Park from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

## STANLEY QUARTER POND, New Britain (6.4 acres)



### COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS

Trout and channel catfish first stocked in 2014.

- **Species:** (S, T, CC, LMB)
- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit—3 catfish.
- **Trout:** Season open 2nd Saturday in April–last day February.
- **All Other Species:** Season open year round.

## STARRET POND (see Huntington Pond)

## STATE LINE POND, Stafford (75 acres)



Next to Route 32.

- **Species:** (YP S BB CP)

## LAKE STIBBS (Southbury Training School Pond), Southbury (5 acres)



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

## STILLWATER POND, Torrington (94 acres)



### CATFISH LAKE

Channel catfish first stocked in 2012.

- **Species:** (T LMB YP S CC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

## STRATTON BROOK PARK POND, Simsbury (2.3 acres)



### TROUT PARK

- **Species:** (T S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## STROH PARK POND, Windsor (1.4 acres)

- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–November 30.

## TAFTVILLE RESERVOIR, Norwich (25 acres)



Access through Raymond Ouellet Park.

### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (LMB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—2, 16" minimum length.

## TAFTVILLE POND, Lisbon (117 acres)



Small town boat launch (ramp open April 1 to November 30).

- **Species:** (LMB, SMB CB S YP CA)

## TANKERHOUSE LAKES, Vernon (10 acres)

- **Species:** (T LMB CP S YP BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

## TETREAULT POND, Killingly (39 acres)

- **Species:** (CP S YP)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

## TOLLGATE POND, Greenwich (7 acres)

- **Species:** (LMB S BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–October 31.

## TWIN BROOKS PARK POND, Trumbull (4 acres)

- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Note:** Ice fishing prohibited by town ordinance.

## TYLER POND, Goshen (187 acres)



- **Species:** (T YP LMB CB CP BB S)



## Lakes and Ponds open year-round (no closed season) unless otherwise stated.

- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

### UNCAS LAKE (Hog Pond), Lyme (69 acres)



- **Species:** (T LMB AE CP YP S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** Operation of motorboats prohibited.

### UPPER FULTON PARK POND, Waterbury (2.1 acres)



#### COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS

- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

### VALLEY FALLS POND, Vernon (4.1 acres)



#### TROUT PARK

- **Species:** (T S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

### WALKERS RESERVOIR (East), Vernon (5.1 acres)



- **Species:** (T YP S BB)
- **Other:** All vessels prohibited.

#### CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021 (SEE PAGE 20):

- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 3rd Saturday of April – last day February.

### WANGUMBAUG LAKE

(see Coventry Lake), Coventry

### LAKE WARAMAUG, Kent-Warren-Washington (656 acres)



Carry-in boat access in Lake Waramaug State Park (approximately 100 foot carry to water). Boating access is also available to the general public at the town boat launch (annual launch permit fee and daily inspection fee) in Washington. Required inspection of boat and trailer for invasive plants. Boats and trailers failing inspection will not be allowed to use launch. Days and hours of operation vary seasonally, contact the Washington Park and Recreation Department (860-868-1519) for more information.

- **Species:** (LMB SMB CP YP BB S)

### WARDS MILLPOND (Branford River), Branford (7.3 acres)



- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.

### WARNER POND (Kazan's Pond), Newtown. (11.7 acres)

No facilities, walk in access only.

- **Species:** (LMB S YP)

### WASHINGTON PARK POND, Windsor

- **Season:** Open year-round.

### WAUREGAN RESERVOIR

(see Quinebaug Lake)

### WEST BRANCH (Hogback) RESERVOIR, Hartland-Colebrook (201 acres)



- **Species:** (T YP S SMB RA)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Other:** The possession and use of any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait is prohibited.

### WEST HILL POND, New Hartford-Barkhamsted (261 acres)



#### TROUT MANAGEMENT LAKE / KOKANEE LAKE

- **Species:** (T K SMB YP S LMB RA)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–March 31.
- **Trout:** from March 1–March 31, 16" minimum length, Daily creel limit—1.
- **Trout & Kokanee combined:** Daily creel limit—8 for both species in aggregate, of which no more than 5 may be trout and no more than 5 may be kokanee salmon.
- **Other:** The possession and use of any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait is prohibited. 15 mph speed limit except 6 mph between sunset and sunrise. From Memorial Day through September 15th motors limited to 8 hp.

### WEST PEQUONNOCK RESERVOIR, Monroe (1.4 acres)

- **Species:** (LMB S)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–December 31.
- **Note:** Permit required to fish—contact Aquarion Water Company at 203-452-3511.

### WEST SIDE POND, Goshen (42 acres)



#### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (T LMB YP S BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.

### WEST THOMPSON LAKE, Thompson (239 acres)



#### TROPHY CARP WATERS

- **Species:** (LMB SMB CP CB WP S YP CA)

- **Carp:** Daily creel limit-1, 26" maximum length.
- **Other:** Speed limit 5 mph.

#### CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021 (SEE PAGE 20):

- **Carp:** Daily creel limit-1, 26" maximum length, except when fishing with bow and arrow: daily creel limit-12, of which not more than 3 fish can be greater than 30".

### WEST TWIN LAKE (Washinee Lake), Salisbury (290 acres)

- **Species:** (CP LMB S CB YP)
- **Other:** 35 mph daytime speed limit, 6 mph from ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour after sunrise. Also 6 mph within 200 feet of vessel or dock. The possession and use of any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait is prohibited.

### WHARTON POND (Allen Brook Pond), Wallingford (5 acres)



In Wharton Brook State Park.

#### TROUT PARK

- **Species:** (T)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Other:** All vessels prohibited.

### WHITNEY FLOOD CONTROL POND (Patten Brook), Stafford (2 acres)



- **Species:** (S BB CP)

### WILLIAMS POND (Lake Williams), Lebanon (272 acres)



Informal cartop access from dam on Route 207.

- **Species:** (LMB CP YP S BB CB)

### WINCHESTER LAKE, Winchester (246 acres)



#### NORTHERN PIKE LAKE

- **Species:** (LMB CP YP S NP CB BB)
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit.

### LAKE WINFIELD (see Zeiner Pond), Plymouth

### LAKE WINNEMAUG, Watertown (113 acres)

- **Species:** (LMB S CB WP BB YP)
- **Other:** 7 mph speed limit. Vessels with internal combustion engines attached are prohibited.

### LAKE WINTERGREEN, Hamden (44 acres)



#### COMMUNITY FISHING WATERS / CATFISH LAKE

Channel catfish first stocked in 2007. West Rock Ridge State Park — Public right-of-way not passable to cars.

- **Species:** (S LMB YP T CC)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Channel catfish & white catfish:** Daily creel limit-3 catfish.
- **Other:** Use of internal combustion engines prohibited.

### WONONSKOPOMUC LAKE (Lakeville Lake), Salisbury (348 acres)



#### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (T LMB CP YP S BB)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–October 31.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** 12" to 16" protected slot limit. Daily creel limit—6 bass, only 2 may be 16" or greater.
- **Other:** The possession and use of any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait is prohibited. Motors restricted to 12 cu in (approximately 10 hp). Town operated boat launch-fee charged. Launch open daily 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. from 2nd Saturday in April to Labor Day. From Labor Day through October 31st launch open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays, and from 7 a.m. to 12 noon on weekends. Boat livery.

### WOOD CREEK POND, Norfolk (148 acres)



- **Species:** (LMB BB YP CP CC)

### WYASSUP LAKE, North Stonington (99 acres)



#### BASS MANAGEMENT LAKE

- **Species:** (CP YP T LMB BB AE)
- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April–last day February.
- **Largemouth & smallmouth bass:** Daily creel limit—2, 16" minimum length.
- **Other:** 8 mph speed limit. See 2021 Boater's Guide for summer exemption.

### ZEINER POND (Lake Winfield), Plymouth (16 acres)



- **Other:** No longer stocked with trout.
- **Season:** Open year-round.

### ZEMKO POND, Salem (8 acres)

Walk-in access from Round Hill Road (300 yards).

- **Species:** (LMB S)

### LAKE ZOAR, Monroe-Oxford-Newtown-Southbury (909 acres)



#### WALLEYE LAKE

Walleye first stocked in 2011.

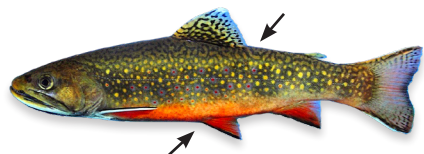
From the Shepaug Dam to the Steven-son Dam.

- **Species:** (SMB WP LMB CB NP WC S YP WA)
- **Other:** 45 mph speed limit daytime, 25 mph from ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise.

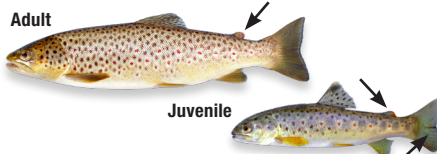
# A Guide to Catchable Freshwater Fish in Connecticut

Not sure about your catch? Subtle differences between fish include the shape of the body-long vs. round, whiskers shape of the mouth, and if there is a small fleshy lobe-like fin on the back near the tail. Determine which of these traits match your fish, then look to the photos and specific details to make a positive identification. If you would like a professional opinion, email a clear photo of the entire fish to [deep.inland.fisheries@ct.gov](mailto:deep.inland.fisheries@ct.gov).

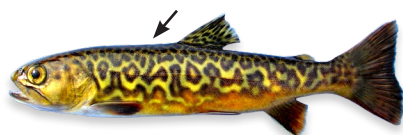
## Trout



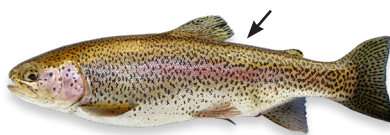
**Brook Trout** have a dark body with light spots and a worm-like pattern on back, head and sides. The lower fins are typically red-orange with a white leading edge. Stocked Brook Trout are typically less colorful than wild Brook Trout.



**Brown Trout** have a light body with dark spots. The lower fins are typically brown, tan or nearly colorless and may have a white leading edge. Wild Brown Trout may have bright red and orange spots and an orange adipose fin. The tail is more rounded than forked. Brown Trout and Atlantic Salmon look very similar.



**Tiger Trout** (hybrid) have worm-like markings covering the entire body. They usually do not have spots. Tiger Trout are a sterile cross between a male Brook Trout and a female Brown Trout.



**Rainbow Trout** have a light body with dark spots on the head and the tail. There is usually a pink band along each side.

## Salmon



**Kokanee Salmon** are silver without spots until spawning season when they undergo significant changes in shape and color, turning red. Males often develop a large hooked jaw (kype). Kokanee Salmon die after they spawn.



© Joseph Tomelleri

**Atlantic Salmon** have a light body with dark spots. The adipose fin is brown or dark brown. The lower fins are brown with no color on the leading edge. There may be spots on the head and tail. Wild Atlantic Salmon recently entering freshwater typically are silver, turning brown after being in freshwater for a while. Small Atlantic Salmon will have a deeply-forked tail. Atlantic Salmon are stocked as fry into many tributaries of the Connecticut River. All Atlantic Salmon must be immediately released, unless it is from one of the areas the Inland Fisheries Division stocks with surplus adult Atlantic Salmon (see page 28).

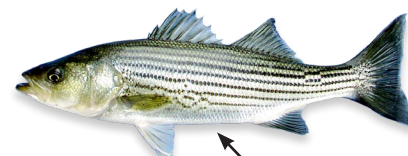
## Bass, Perch & Walleye



**Largemouth Bass** have a dark stripe along the side of the body. The end of the jaw typically reaches past the eye.



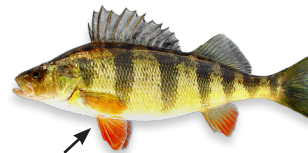
**Smallmouth Bass** may have vertical stripes on the side of the body. The end of the jaw typically reaches to the center of the eye.



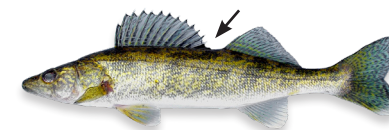
**Striped Bass** have a light body, somewhat silver in color with a series of horizontal black bands along the side.



**White Perch** have a silver body and lack any spots or bands.



**Yellow Perch** have a yellow body with dark vertical bands and orange lower fins.



**Walleye** generally have a greenish or brownish back fading to a white belly. They may have irregular dark green blotches on the body. They have very large and sharp teeth.



## Sunfish & Bass



**Pumpkinseeds** have turquoise markings on the face and have a red dot on the gill cover.



**Bluegills** do not have turquoise markings on the face and do not have a red spot on the gill cover.



**Redbreast Sunfish** have some turquoise markings on the face. The gill cover has a long oval dark "ear". The belly is usually a bright orange-red.



**Rock Bass** have a very large red-colored eye. The pattern on the side of the body resembles camouflage print.



**Calico Bass** (crappie) have a distinct curved profile from the head to the dorsal fin. The body is silvery or brass colored with dark spots, and very thin when viewed from head on.

## Bullhead & Catfish



**Yellow Bullhead** have a rounded tail and the chin whiskers are light colored. Both the belly and chin are usually yellow.



**Brown Bullhead** have a rounded tail and the chin whiskers are dark colored. Both the belly and chin are light colored and usually white.



**Channel Catfish** have a forked tail (pointed tips), very long whiskers on the side of the mouth and dark chin whiskers. Compared to the white catfish, the channel catfish has a narrow head.



**White Catfish** have a forked tail (rounded tips), very long whiskers on the side of the mouth and light chin whiskers. Compared to the channel catfish the white catfish has a broad head. The eyes may have a light blue band around the iris.

## Pike & Pickerel



**Northern Pike** have a dark colored body with light spots. The entire cheek and only ½ of the gill cover is covered in scales. The mouth has large and sharp teeth.



**Chain Pickerel** have a yellow colored body with a dark "chain-like" pattern. Both the cheek and gill cover are completely covered with scales. Typically there is a dark vertical band below the eye. The mouth has large and sharp teeth.

## Carp & Sucker



**White Sucker** has a streamlined body with a round mouth. The body is usually dark brown on top and bronze color on the side.



**Common Carp** can be a very large fish (up to 40 pounds) and have large scales. Carp have a small whisker on each side of the mouth.

This guide intended to provide some general descriptive information and a photo typical of each species featured. These represent fish that are most often caught in freshwaters of CT. For more detailed information please refer to "A Pictorial Guide to Freshwater Fishes of Connecticut" by Robert P. Jacobs and Eileen B. O'Donnell. Available at the DEEP store <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/About/DEEP-Bookstore/The-DEEP-Store>.

For questions about fish or fishing in Connecticut, please contact the Fisheries Division at 860-424-Fish or email: [deep.inland.fisheries@ct.gov](mailto:deep.inland.fisheries@ct.gov) or visit our web page at <https://portal.ct.gov/deepfishing>.

All photographs by Robert P. Jacobs, CT DEEP Fisheries Division

# Rivers & Streams

Statewide regulations for seasons, legal methods, and limits (page 21) apply unless a site-specific regulation is listed for a waterbody.

The following rivers and streams or sections thereof are available for public fishing through the courtesy of the landowner, or where indicated by posters, through cooperative agreement, lease, or state ownership.

## Determining fishing regulations is a simple two-step process:

1. Check the regulation table (page 21) for general statewide Species, Legal Methods, and Limits regulations.
2. Look up the **waterbody** in the alphabetical list of lake and ponds to find any **special regulations** that apply. If no site-specific regulations are listed for a waterbody, statewide regulations apply.

**Special Management Areas For Trout** (alternative regulations such as extended seasons, minimum lengths & reduced creel limits):

- **Trout Management Areas (TMA):** High quality fisheries offering year-round opportunities.
- **Trout Parks:** Easy to fish, frequently stocked areas.
- **Trophy Trout Streams:** Stocked with a higher proportion of larger fish.
- **Sea-run Trout Streams:** Areas where DEEP is working to establish populations of anadromous brown trout.
- **Wild Trout Management Areas (WTMA):** There are three classes of WTMA's:
  - **Class 1:** Catch and release only, open year-round, use of barbless single-hook artificial lures and barbless single-hook flies only.
  - **Class 2:** Two (2) trout per angler per day limit, trout must be 12" or larger to keep from opening day to last day of February.
  - **Class 3:** Five (5) fish per angler per day limit, trout must be 9" or larger to keep from opening day to last day of February.








## Lower River/Tidal Waters

Designated rivers & streams with no closed season including the entire Connecticut and Thames rivers, and downstream portions of the Coginchaug, Farmington, Housatonic, Mattabesset, Mystic, Naugatuck, Niantic, Quinnipiac, Salmon, and Yantic rivers.

## Public Access to Fishing Waters

Public access to fishing waters is restricted to rights-of-way designated by poster or by permission of landowner. On state-leased streams, fishermen must wade or stay near the stream bank as indicated by signs.

## Rivers and Streams Legend

-  Public boat launching area
-  Facilities for those with disabilities
-  State campground
-  Family friendly fishing location
-  State picnic area
-  Fishing line recycling receptacle
-  Trout & Salmon Stamp needed to fish in this area.

*Italics* Access/stocking location information

(T BN) Indicates degree of stocking and/or presence of wild trout:

- T Lightly/moderately stocked
- T Heavily stocked
- BK Wild brook trout
- BN Wild brown trout

Other fish species are listed for several rivers, see Key to Fish Species Abbreviations in Lakes and Ponds section (page 32).

**BASS**  
**TROUT**  
**BROODSTOCK SALMON**  
**TROPHY CARP WATERS**

Special Management Areas are color-coded for major gamefish species

### ASPETUCK RIVER, Easton-Weston (T)

*Intermittent sections from Route 58 along Route 136 to the Saugatuck River.*

### BANTAM RIVER (West Branch), Litchfield (T)

*Intermittent sections from the Goshen-Litchfield town line at Brooks Road through Route 63 to the confluence with the Bantam River Inlet near Route 202.*

### BANTAM RIVER (inlet to Bantam Lake), Litchfield (T)

*Intermittent sections from Route 202 to approximately one half mile upstream of confluence with Bantam Lake.*

### BANTAM RIVER (outlet from Bantam Lake), Litchfield (T)

*Downstream of Bantam Lake from Bantam to West Morris Road in West Morris.*  
• **Methods:** Fly fishing only where indicated by posters.

### BARTLETT BROOK, Lebanon (T)


*Intermittent sections from Brewster Pond downstream to Yantic River.*

### BEACON HILL BROOK,

Bethany-Naugatuck-Beacon Falls (T BK BN)

*From Route 63 crossing in Bethany to confluence with Naugatuck River.*

### WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)

 From Route 63 crossing in Naugatuck downstream to confluence with Naugatuck River:

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

### BEAVER BROOK, Barkhamsted (BK)

*Intermittent sections from along Park Road (1/2 mile north of Day Road) to Route 318.*

### BEAVER BROOK (includes Fire Ponds), Franklin-Sprague (T BN)

*Intermittent sections along Route 207 to the Shetucket River.*


### BEAVER BROOK, Windham-Scotland (BK BN)

### MERRICK BROOK WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 1)

*In Talbot Wildlife Management Area from Route 14 to Merrick Brook:*

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Barbless single-hook artificial lures and flies only.
- **Trout: Catch and Release Only.**

### BIBLE ROCK BROOK, Haddam-Middletown (T)

 *Intermittent sections along Route 154.*


### BIGELOW BROOK, Eastford-Union (T)

*Intermittent sections downstream of Myers Pond to Natchaug River.*

### BLACKBERRY RIVER, Norfolk-Canaan (T BN)

*From 1/2 mile west of Route 272 along Route 44 and Lower River Road to confluence with Housatonic River.*

### WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)

 From Whiting River to confluence with Housatonic River.

## WHAT ARE "THERMAL REFUGES"?

During the hot summer months, heat-stressed fish in major rivers, particularly trout, often seek cool-water refuge by congregating at the mouths of tributary streams where cooler water is entering. A number of these cool-water refuges on the Housatonic River, Naugatuck River, and Salmon River have been identified and under current regulations are closed to all fishing from June 15 through September 15, inclusive. These closures are intended to protect fish from any additional stress during periods of very warm water temperatures. In 2016 due to high water temperatures and low river flows, DEEP issued emergency declarations temporarily closing eight locations on the West Branch and mainstem Farmington Rivers and extending the closure at one location on the Housatonic River. The closed areas are delineated by signs posted by DEEP.



**Rivers & streams open season is from 6:00 am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April to the last day of February unless otherwise stated.**

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

#### BLACKLEDGE RIVER,

Bolton-Hebron-Marlborough (T)

*Intermittent state-owned sections from Gay City State Park to the Salmon River.*

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length — Downstream of Route 94, Glastonbury, to the Salmon River.

#### BLACKWELL BROOK, Brooklyn-Canterbury (T)

*Intermittent sections from Woodward Road to the Quinebaug River.*

#### BLADENS RIVER, Woodbridge-Seymour (BK)

*From ¼ mile below Bethmour Road along Route 67 to ¼ mile below Chatfield Street, includes tributary (Hopp Brook) along Miller Road.*

#### BRANCH BROOK, Watertown (T)



#### TROUT PARK

Within Black Rock State Park:

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

#### BRANFORD RIVER, Branford-North Branford (T)

*Intermittent sections from Route 22 to I-95.*

#### BROAD BROOK, Ellington (T BK BN)

*Intermittent sections along Muddy Brook Road, and from Broad Brook Mill Pond to Scantic River.*

#### BROAD BROOK, Preston (T)

*Intermittent sections from Swantown Road to Old Jewett City Road.*

#### BUNGEE BROOK, Eastford-Woodstock (T)

*Intermittent sections from Route 171 downstream to the Still River.*

#### BUNNELL BROOK (Burlington Brook), Burlington

*From Covey Road, then along Route 4 to confluence with Farmington River:*

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length downstream of Covey Road.

#### BUTTERNUT BROOK, Litchfield (T)

*Upstream of Route 202 to confluence with the Bantam River.*

#### BYRAM RIVER, Greenwich (T)

*Includes East Branch. From Merritt Parkway to Glenville Road (Glen Ridge Road).*

#### CANDLEWOOD HILL BROOK, Haddam (T)

*Intermittent sections along Candlewood Hill Road.*

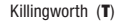
#### CEDAR SWAMP BROOK, Stafford (BK)

*Nipmuck State Forest from Crooked Road downstream to Roaring Brook.*

#### CEDAR SWAMP BROOK, Sterling (BK)

*Intermittent sections from Portertown Road to the Moosup River.*

#### CHATFIELD HOLLOW BROOK, Killingworth (T)



#### TROUT PARK

In Chatfield Hollow State Park:

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

#### CHOATE BROOK, Preston (T)

*Intermittent sections from Route 165 to the Quinebaug River.*

#### COGINCHAUG RIVER, Durham-Middlefield-Middletown (T)

*Intermittent sections from Route 17 in Durham through Wadsworth Falls State Park.*

#### LOWER RIVER/TIDAL WATERS—no closed season

*Downstream from Route 3 bridge to confluence with Mattabesset River.*

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.

#### CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021 (SEE PAGE 20):

- **Carp:** When fishing with bow and arrow: daily creel limit-12, of which not more than 3 fish can be greater than 30".

#### CONNECTICUT RIVER, Enfield to Old Lyme



#### LOWER RIVER/TIDAL WATERS—no closed season

*Includes entire river in Connecticut*

#### TROPHY CARP WATERS

- **Species:** (AE CA CB LMB NP SMB S WA WC WP YP)
- **Carp:** Daily creel limit-1, 26" maximum length.

#### CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021 (SEE PAGE 20):

- **Carp:** When fishing with bow and arrow: daily creel limit-12, of which not more than 3 fish can be greater than 30".
- **Large & smallmouth bass:** 12" minimum length.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.
- **Northern pike:** 24" minimum length.
- **Alewives/Blueback Herring:** Special closures may be in effect (see page 28).
- **Note:** Several of the boat launches may flood during periods of high water.

#### COPPERMINE BROOK, Burlington-Bristol (BK BN)

*Intermittent sections from South Main Street to Stevens Street.*

#### PEQUABUCK RIVER TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA



*In Bristol from Artisan Street downstream to confluence with Pequabuck River.*

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.

#### COPPS BROOK, Stonington (BK)

*Access from Route 184.*

#### DEEP BROOK, Newtown (BK BN)

#### WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 1)



*From Wasserman Way to confluence with Pootatuck River:*

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Barbless single-hook artificial lures and flies only.
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.
- **Note:** Wild Trout Management Area includes a portion of the Pootatuck River upstream and downstream of the confluence as posted by DEEP.

#### DELPHI BROOK, Stafford (BK BN)

*Intermittent sections along Route 19.*

#### DENISON BROOK, Voluntown (BK)

*In Pachaug State Forest, south of Route 138.*

#### DICKINSON CREEK, Marlborough (T)

*Salmon River State Forest.*

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length—Downstream of Route 66 to the Salmon River.

#### EAST ASPETUCK RIVER, New Milford-New Preston (T BN)

*Intermittent sections accessible from Routes 45 and 202 to Wells Road.*

#### WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)



*From Lake Waramaug to confluence with Housatonic River.*

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

#### EAST SWAMP BROOK, Bethel (T)

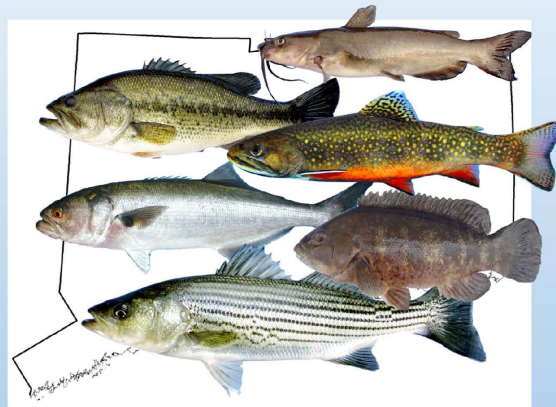
*Intermittent sections from Meckaur Municipal Park through Plumtrees Road to Route 302 (includes unnamed flow-through pond in Meckauer/Bennet Memorial Park).*



## Attention Anglers



**All of Your License Fees go to Support Connecticut's Fisheries**



## Thank You for Your Purchase

*100% of the fees collected from the sale of sporting licenses, by state law (CGS 26-15, 26-15a, and 26-15b) are allocated from the General Fund to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife.*

# Rivers & Streams

Statewide regulations for seasons, legal methods, and limits (page 21) apply unless a site-specific regulation is listed for a waterbody.

## EIGHT MILE BROOK, Middlebury-Oxford (T)



Intermittent sections from Judd Hill, through Larkin Trail State Park and Southford Falls State Park to Route 188, then to Barry Road.

### TROUT PARK

Within Southford Falls State Park:

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## EIGHTMILE RIVER, East Haddam-Lyme (T)



Devils Hopyard State Park and intermittent sections below the park to Hamburg Cove.

- **Trout:** 9" Minimum length — From Foxtown Road to the dam at Mt. Archer Road.

### SEA RUN TROUT STREAM

Downstream of dam at Mt. Archer Road:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" Minimum length.

## EIGHTMILE RIVER (East Branch),

Salem-East Haddam-Lyme (T)

Intermittent sections along Darling Road and Salem Road.

- **Trout:** 9" Minimum length — Downstream of Witch Meadow Road, Salem to the Eightmile River.

## EIGHTMILE RIVER, Southington (BN)

### WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 1)



Entire river in Southington:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Barbless single-hook artificial lures and flies only.
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.

## EXETER BROOK, Lebanon (BK)

In Bartlett Brook Wildlife Management Area.

## FALLS RIVER, Essex-Westbrook (T)

Intermittent sections along Witchhazel Road downstream to Mares Hill Road.

## FARM RIVER, Branford-East

Haven-North Branford (T BN)

Intermittent sections from Northford to I-95.

### WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)



From Mill Road (downstream of Pages Millpond) in North Branford to I-95 bridge (East Haven):

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

### SEA RUN TROUT STREAM

Downstream of I-95 bridge:

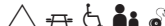
- **Season:** Open year-round.

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.

## FARMILL RIVER, Monroe-Shelton-Stratford (T)

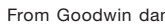
Intermittent sections from Moose Hill Road (Monroe) to Route 110 just above Housatonic River.

**FARMINGTON RIVER** (West Branch and Mainstem), Hartland-Barkhamsted-New Hartford-Canton-Burlington-Farmington-Avon-Simsbury-Bloomfield-East Granby-Windsor (T)



Intermittent sections from Goodwin Dam to RT 4 (Farmington Center). Then from Tariffville Memorial Park (Simsbury) through the Tariffville Gorge (Bloomfield). Then from mouth of tailrace canal below Rainbow Dam to confluence with Connecticut River.

### FARMINGTON RIVER TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA



From Goodwin dam (Hartland) downstream to the intersection of Hogback Road and Route 20 in Hartland, as indicated by signs posted by DEEP.

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout:**
  - » Catch and Release Only from September 1 to 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April.
  - » Daily creel limit—2, 12" minimum length from 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April to August 31.

From the intersection of Hogback Road and Route 20 in Hartland, as indicated by signs posted by DEEP downstream to the gas pipeline crossing approximately four-tenths miles downstream of the confluence with the Still River in Barkhamsted, as indicated by signs posted by DEEP. THIS AREA IS CLOSED TO ALL FISHING FROM THE FIRST DAY OF APRIL TO 6:00 AM 2ND SATURDAY IN APRIL:

- **Season:** Open 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday April—last day March.
- **Trout:**
  - » Catch and Release Only from September 1 to 6:00 a.m. last day March.
  - » Daily creel limit—2, 12" minimum length from 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April to August 31.

From the gas pipeline crossing approximately four-tenths miles downstream of the confluence with the Still River in Barkhamsted, as indicated by signs posted by DEEP, to the old footbridge abutments approximately 1.4 miles downstream of the confluence with the Still River (Barkhamsted):

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout:**
  - » Catch and Release Only from September 1 to 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April.
  - » Daily creel limit—2, 12" minimum length from 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April to August 31.

From the old footbridge abutments

(Barkhamsted) downstream to the Route 219 bridge (New Hartford). This area includes all of the former West Branch Farmington River Trout Management Area:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Methods:** Barbless hooks only
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.

From the Route 219 bridge (New Hartford) downstream to the route 177 Bridge (Unionville):

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout:**
  - » Catch and Release Only from September 1 to 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April.
  - » Daily creel limit—2, 12" minimum length from 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April to August 31.

### LOWER FARMINGTON RIVER

Farmington to Windsor; From Route 177 bridge in Unionville Center downstream to Rainbow Reservoir.

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—5, 9" Minimum length.

### LOWER RIVER/TIDAL WATERS—no closed season

Windsor; From mouth of tailrace canal below Rainbow Dam to confluence with Connecticut River.

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.
- **Note:** All fishing prohibited in tailrace canal and from mouth of tailrace upstream to Rainbow Dam.

## FAWN BROOK, Hebron-Marlborough

No longer stocked by DEEP.

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length downstream of Slocum Road.

## FAWN BROOK (West Branch),

Marlborough-Hebron

No longer stocked by DEEP.

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length downstream of Slocum Road.

## FENTON RIVER, Mansfield-Willington (T BN)

Intermittent sections from Moose Meadow Road to Mansfield Hollow Reservoir.

### WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)



Entire stream in Mansfield and Willington:

- **Trout:** 9" Minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## FIVEMILE RIVER,

Thompson-Putnam-Killingly (T)



Intermittent sections from New Road to the Quinebaug River.

## FLAT BROOK, East Hampton (T BK)

Intermittent sections along Route 16 downstream to the Salmon River.

## FREEMAN HILL BROOK (FORMERLY

NEGRO HILL BROOK), Burlington (BK BN)

### SESSION WOODS WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)

Upstream of Route 69 (through Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area):

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

### CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021

(SEE PAGE 20):

### SESSION WOODS WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (CLASS 1)

- **Season:** Open year-round. Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.
- **Methods:** Barbless single-hook artificial lures and flies only.
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.

## FRENCH RIVER, Thompson (T)

Intermittent sections from North Grosve-nordale Pond to Blain Road.

## FRESHWATER BROOK, Enfield (T)

Intermittent sections from Route 220 downstream to the Connecticut River.

## FURNACE BROOK, Cornwall Bridge (BN)



From the bridge on Route 4 upstream approximately 1½ miles, as posted.

### HEATHER REAVES WILD TROUT

### MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 2)

Upstream from Housatonic River as posted.

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 12" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## FURNACE BROOK, Stafford (T)

Intermittent sections from Staffordville Lake along Route 19 and Furnace Brook Road to Glenville Pond.

## GILLETTE BROOK, Somers (BK)

Intermittent sections from Battle Street downstream to the Scantic River.

## GREEN FALLS RIVER,

North Stonington-Voluntown (T)

Intermittent sections from Green Falls Dam to Rhode Island.

## GULF STREAM, Somers (BK)

Intermittent sections from Gulf Road Marsh downstream to the Scantic River.



**Rivers & streams open season is from 6:00 am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April to the last day of February unless otherwise stated.**

**HALEYS BROOK**, Groton (BK)

*Intermittent sections along Route 184.*

**HALL MEADOW BROOK**,

Goshen-Torrington (T BK)

*Along Route 272 from Hall Meadow Cemetery to the Hall Meadow Brook Reservoir Dam (John Minetto State Park).*

**HAMMONASSET RIVER**,

Clinton-Killingworth-Madison (T)

*Intermittent sections from Route 80 to Route 1.*

**TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA** ■

From Lake Hammonasset Dam to Chestnut Hill Road:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout:**
  - » **Catch and Release Only** from September 1 to 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April.
  - » Daily creel limit—2, 9" minimum length from 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April to August 31.

**SEA RUN TROUT STREAM**

- **From Chestnut Hill Road to the breached dam located 300 feet upstream of River Road:**
  - » **Season:** Open from 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April-last day February.
  - » **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 9" Minimum length.
- **Downstream of the breached dam located 300 feet upstream of River Road:**
  - » **Season:** Open year-round.
  - » **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" Minimum length.

**HAWLEYS BROOK**, Easton-Weston (BK)

**WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 1)** ■

Within the Trout Brook Valley Property (publicly owned):

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Barbless single-hook artificial lures and flies only.
- **Trout: Catch and Release Only.**

**HOCKANUM RIVER**, Vernon-Ellington-Manchester-East Hartford (T)

*Intermittent sections from Rockville to the Connecticut River.*

**TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA** ■

From I-84 in Vernon downstream to crossing under I-84 at Laurel Marsh on the Manchester/East Hartford line:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout: Catch and Release Only.**

**HOP BROOK**, Middlebury-Waterbury (T)

*From Route 64 to Hop Brook Flood Control Impoundment.*

**HOP RIVER** (includes Johnsons Pond), Bolton-Coventry (T)

*Intermittent sections along Route 6 to the Willimantic River.*

**HOUSATONIC RIVER** (includes all impoundments from Bleachery Dam to the Massachusetts line), Salisbury-Canaan-Sharon-Cornwall-Kent-Sherman-New Milford (T SMB NP CA)

*For Housatonic River Flows at Falls Village: 1-888-417-4837.*

- **Thermal refuges:** Areas within one hundred feet of signs indicating such closure posted by DEEP at or near the mouths of Kent Falls Brook and Macedonia Brook are closed to all fishing from June 15 to September 15.

**HOUSATONIC RIVER TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA** ■

From bridge crossing at Routes 112 and 7 (Salisbury/Canaan) to bridge at Routes 4 and 7 (Cornwall/Sharon):

- **Season:** Open year-round except in areas within 100 feet of signs indicating such closure posted by DEEP at or near the mouths of tributaries that are closed to all fishing from June 15 to September 15.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout: Catch and Release Only.**
- **Methods:** Fly fishing only in the 3 mile section upstream from Route 4 bridge, as posted.

**BASS MANAGEMENT AREA (STANLEY TRACT AREA)** ■

From Dawn Hill Road (Sharon) to Skiff Mountain Road in Kent (approximately 6 miles):

- **Area managed for smallmouth, statewide regulations apply.**

**BULL'S BRIDGE TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA / BASS MANAGEMENT AREA** ■

From Bull's Bridge Impoundment Dam (Kent) to Gaylordsville Bridge (Route 7) in New Milford, includes Ten Mile River from NY border to confluence with Housatonic River:

- **Season:** Open year-round except in areas within 100 feet of tributaries that are closed to all fishing from June 15 to September 15, as posted.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout: Catch and Release Only.**
- **Large & Smallmouth bass: Catch and Release Only.**

**LOWER RIVER/TIDAL WATERS—no closed season**

Derby, Orange, Shelton, Milford, Stratford Downstream from dam on Lake Housatonic (Derby). Walk-in access at Derby Dam off Route 34 (Derby) and Canal Street (Shelton).

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.

**CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021 (SEE PAGE 20):**

- **Carp:** When fishing with bow and arrow downstream of the Derby Dam: daily creel limit-12, of which not more than 3 fish can be greater than 30".

**HUNTS BROOK**, Montville-Waterford (T)

*Intermittent sections from Miller's Pond to Smith Cove.*

**INDIANTOWN BROOK**, Ledyard-Preston (T)

*Intermittent sections from Route 2 to Poquetanuck Cove. Includes Shewville Brook, Gates and Hallville Ponds, and Poquetanuck Brook.*

**JEREMY RIVER**, Hebron-Colchester (T)

*Intermittent Sections from Route 66 to the Blackledge River.*

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length — Downstream of Grayville Road to the Salmon River.

**JOE CLARK BROOK**, Ledyard (BK)

*Intermittent sections from Church Hill Road downstream to Poquetanuck Cove.*

**JORDAN BROOK**, Waterford (BK)

*Intermittent sections along entire length.*

**JUDD BROOK**, Colchester-Hebron

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length downstream of Old Colchester Road to Jeremy River.

**KENT FALLS BROOK**, Kent (T BK BN)



*Below base of falls.*

**TROUT PARK** ■

Within Kent Falls State Park:

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

**KETTLETOWN BROOK**, Southbury (T BK BN)

*Through Kettletown State Park to Lake Zoar.*

**KITT BROOK**, Canterbury (T)

*Intermittent sections from Route 14 to the Quinebaug River.*

**LATIMER BROOK**,

East Lyme-Waterford (T BK BN)

*Intermittent sections along Route 161 from Silver Falls to Niantic River.*

**SEA RUN TROUT STREAM**

Downstream of I-95 bridge:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" Minimum length.

**LAUREL BROOK**, Middletown (T)

*From Anderson Road (Laurel Brook Road) through Wadsworth Falls State Park.*

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# Rivers & Streams

Statewide regulations for seasons, legal methods, and limits (page 21) apply unless a site-specific regulation is listed for a waterbody.

## LEADMINE BROOK, Harwinton-Thomaston (T)

Intermittent sections from Route 4 in Harwinton through Roraback Wildlife Management Area to confluence with Naugatuck River (Thomaston Flood Control Area).

## LITTLE RIVER, Canterbury-Hampton (T)

Intermittent sections from Route 97 to Paper Mill Pond.

## LITTLE RIVER, Oxford-Seymour (T BK BN)

Intermittent sections along Route 67 from 1 mile above Hogback Road to Hoadley's Pond (Seymour).

## WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)



From Towner Lane downstream to Park Road:

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## LOWDEN BROOK, Voluntown (BK)

In Pachaug State Forest.

## MACEDONIA BROOK, Kent (T BK BN)



## WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)



Within Macedonia Brook State Park:

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 1)



From confluence with Bog Hollow Brook to Route 341:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Barbless single-hook artificial lures and flies only.
- **Trout: Catch and Release Only.**

## MAD RIVER, Norfolk-Winchester (T)

From Rugg Brook Road through Mad River Flood Control Impoundment to Route 263 crossing.

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length downstream of Grantville Road.

## MARY BROWN BROOK, Putnam (BK)

Intermittent sections from East Putnam Road downstream to the Five Mile River.

## MASHAMOQUET BROOK, Pomfret (T)



Intermittent sections from Taft Pond through Mashamoquet State Park to Quinebaug River.

## MATTABESSET RIVER,

Berlin-Middletown (NP CA LMB)

Intermittent sections in Berlin from Brook Street to Lower Lane.

## LOWER RIVER/TIDAL WATERS—no closed season:

Downstream from Route 372 bridge to confluence with Connecticut River.

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.

## CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021

### (SEE PAGE 20):

- **Carp:** When fishing with bow and arrow downstream of Route 3: daily creel limit-12, of which not more than 3 fish can be greater than 30".

## MEADOW BROOK, Colchester

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length downstream of Route 16.

## MERRICK BROOK, Scotland (BK BN)

## MERRICK BROOK WILD TROUT

### MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 1)

Within Talbot Wildlife Management Area (WMA), and also extending upstream of the WMA as posted.

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Barbless single-hook artificial lures and flies only.
- **Trout: Catch and Release Only.**
- **Note:** Wild Trout Management Area includes Beaver Brook within the Talbot WMA.

## MIANUS RIVER, Greenwich-Stamford (T)



Intermittent sections accessible ¼ mile upstream of June Road to Palmer's Hill Road (just above Mianus Pond).

## SEA RUN TROUT STREAM

- **Entire river upstream of Mianus Pond Dam (just above Boston Post Road):**

» **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 9" Minimum length.

- **Downstream of Mianus Pond Dam:**

» **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" Minimum length.

## EXCEPT IN:

## TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA

From Merriebrook Road upstream approximately 1 mile to dam as indicated by signs:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout:**
  - » **Catch and Release Only** from September 1 to 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April. Single hook flies and artificial lures only from September 1 to 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April.
  - » Daily creel limit—2, 9" minimum length from 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April to August 31.

## MIDDLE RIVER, Stafford (T)

Intermittent sections from Edson Brook to Willimantic River.

## MILL BROOK, Cornwall (BK BN)

From the Housatonic River upstream along Route 128 for approximately 1 mile.

## MILL RIVER, Easton-Fairfield (T BK BN)

Intermittent sections from confluence with Canoe Brook, as posted by DEEP, to Mohegan Lake, then from base of Samp Mortar Reservoir dam to Sturges Road in Fairfield.

## WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 1)



From confluence of Canoe Brook, as posted by DEEP, to the Merritt Parkway:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Barbless single-hook artificial lures and flies only.
- **Trout: Catch and Release Only.**

## TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA

From Merritt Parkway bridge downstream to Mohegan Park Pond.

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout: Catch and release only.**

## MILL RIVER (includes Axle Shop, Clark's and Woodruff's Ponds), Hamden (T)



Intermittent sections from River Road through Sleeping Giant State Park to Skiff Street. Boats and canoes prohibited, including Axle Shop, Clarks, and Woodruffs Ponds.

## TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA

Within Sleeping Giant State Park:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout:**
  - » **Catch and Release Only** from September 1 to 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April.
  - » Daily creel limit—2, 9" minimum length from 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April to August 31.

## MINE BROOK, Portland (BK)

Along Gadpouch Road in Meshomasic State Forest.

## MOOSUP RIVER, Plainfield-Sterling (T)

Intermittent sections from the Rhode Island line to the Quinebaug River.

## TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA



From Route 14 bridge to confluence with Quinebaug River:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Fly fishing only in lower half of section, as posted.
- **Trout: Catch and Release Only.**

## MORGAN BROOK, Barkhamsted (T BN)

Intermittent sections accessible from Route 44 (downstream of Route 44 in American Legion State Forest) to the West Branch-Farmington River.

## WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)



Entire stream:

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## MORRISSEY BROOK

(NAROMIYOCKNOWHUSUNKATANKSHUNK BROOK), New Milford-Sherman (T BK BN)

Intermittent sections from Route 39 to Cedar Hill Road, New Milford.

## MOUNT HOPE RIVER, Ashford-Mansfield (T)

Intermittent sections from Route 44 to Mansfield Hollow Reservoir.

## MOUNT MISERY BROOK, Voluntown (T)

Intermittent sections from Hell Hollow Road to the Pachaug River.

## MUDDY RIVER, North Haven-Wallingford (T)

Intermittent sections from Northford Road below McKenzie Reservoir (Wallingford), along Tyler Mill Road, Route 150, to Spring Street, North Haven.

## MYRON KINNEY BROOK, Voluntown (T BK)

Within Pachaug State Forest to Glasgo Pond.

## MYSTIC RIVER, Groton-Stonington

## LOWER RIVER/TIDAL WATERS—no closed season

Downstream of confluence of Halesy Brook and Whitford Brook.

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.

## NATCHAUG RIVER,

Eastford-Chaplin-Mansfield-Windham (T)



Intermittent sections along Route 198 to Shetucket River.

## TROPHY TROUT STREAM

Entire River in Eastford-Chaplin-Mansfield-Windham:

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.

## TROUT PARK



Within Natchaug State Forest (Eastford):

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**



**Rivers & streams open season is from 6:00 am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April to the last day of February unless otherwise stated.**

**NAUGATUCK RIVER** (East Branch), Torrington (T BK BN)

**WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)**

From Newfield Road downstream to the confluence with the West Branch Naugatuck:

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

**NAUGATUCK RIVER** (Mainstem), Torrington-Litchfield-Harwinton-Thomaston-Watertown-Waterbury-Naugatuck-Beacon Falls-Seymour-Derby (T)

From the confluence of the East and West Branches in Torrington to the Thomaston Flood Control Dam. Intermittent sections from Thomaston to Waterbury. Platts Mill Road and Route 8 overpass area in Waterbury, through the Naugatuck State Forest to the Route 42 bridge (Pines Bridge Road) in Beacon Falls.

**TROPHY TROUT STREAM**

From the confluence of the East and West Branches to Route 118 (Harwinton-Litchfield) & from the Thomaston Dam to the Kinneytown Dam (Seymour):

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2
- **Thermal refuges:** Areas within 100 feet of signs indicating such closure posted by DEEP at or near the mouths of tributaries are closed to all fishing from June 15 to September 15.

**ATLANTIC SALMON MANAGEMENT AREAS (SEE PAGE 28 FOR DETAILS)**

From Route 118 (Litchfield/Harwinton) to the Thomaston Dam & from Prospect Street (Naugatuck) downstream to Pines Bridge Road (Route 42 bridge, Beacon Falls):

- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods (all species):** From September 1 through March 31, single fly or lure with a single free-swinging hook only. Additional weight may not be added to the line. Anglers are reminded that the season is closed from March 1 to 6:00 a.m. on the 2nd Saturday in April for all species except broodstock Atlantic salmon (see Trout Management Area below for year-round catch-and-release fishing for trout).

**NAUGATUCK RIVER TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA**

Litchfield-Harwinton-Thomaston; From Route 118 (Litchfield/Harwinton) to the Thomaston Dam:

- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Season:** Open year-round except in areas within 100 feet of signs indicating such closure posted by DEEP at or near the mouths of tributaries that are closed to all fishing from June 15 to September 15.
- **Methods (all species):** From September 1 through March 31, single fly or lure with a single free-swinging hook only. Additional weight may not be added to the line.
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.

**LOWER RIVER/TIDAL WATERS—no closed season**

From Kinneytown Dam (Seymour) to confluence with Housatonic River (Derby).

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.

**NAUGATUCK RIVER** (West Branch), Torrington (T)

Intermittent sections from Stillwater Pond to Route 4.

**NEGRO HILL BROOK (SEE FREEMAN HILL BROOK)**

**NEPAUG RIVER**, New Hartford (T BK BN)

Intermittent sections from Niles Road to the Route 202 bridge immediately upstream from Nepaug Reservoir.

**NIANTIC RIVER**, East Lyme-Waterford

**LOWER RIVER/TIDAL WATERS—no closed season**

Downstream of confluence with Latimer Brook.

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.

**NEWAUG RIVER**, Woodbury (T BK BN)

Intermittent sections from Old Town Farm Road to Route 47.

**NORTHFIELD BROOK**, Litchfield-Thomaston (T)

From Northfield Cutlery Pond to Northfield Flood Control Dam.

**NORWALK RIVER** (includes Factory and Millers Ponds), Ridgefield-Redding-Wilton-Norwalk (T BN)

Intermittent sections from Haviland Road (Ridgefield) to Riverside Avenue (Norwalk).

**WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)**

Entire stream in Wilton and Ridgefield upstream of Wolf Pit Road:

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

**OIL MILL BROOK**, Waterford-East Lyme (BK BN)

**SEA RUN TROUT STREAM**

Downstream of I-95 bridge:

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.

**OXOBEXO BROOK**, Montville (T)

Intermittent sections from Oxoboxo Lake downstream to Route 32.

**PACHAUG RIVER**, Griswold-Voluntown (T)

Intermittent sections from Beach Pond to the Quinebaug River. The demarcation line between the Pachaug River and Beachdale Pond is the west side of the bridge on Route 49.

**PARMALEE BROOK**, Durham (T)

Intermittent sections from Route 17 downstream to the Coginchau River.

**PATTACONK BROOK**, Chester (T)

Intermittent sections along Route 148.

**PEASE BROOK**, Lebanon-Franklin (BN BK)

**WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)**

In Pease Brook Wildlife Management Area:

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

**PEQUABUCK RIVER**,

Plymouth-Bristol-Plainville (T BN)

Through Rockwell Municipal Park in Bristol downstream to Route 177 in Plainville.

- **Trout:** 9" Minimum length downstream of Canal Street in Plymouth.

**TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA**

From King Street (Routes 229 and 72) in Bristol to Route 177 in Plainville. Includes the section of Coppermine Brook from the confluence with the Pequabuck River to Artisan Street.

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.

**PEQUONNOK RIVER** (includes Tungsten Mine Park Pond), Bridgeport-Trumbull (T)

Intermittent sections from West Pequonnock Reservoir (Monroe) along Route 25, then through Old Mine Municipal Park, Pequonnock Valley Wildlife Area, Twin Brooks Municipal Park, Unity Municipal Park, and Beardsley State Park in Bridgeport.

**TROPHY TROUT STREAM**

In Trumbull, from the Whitney Avenue bridge through Trumbull Basin State Park to the Daniels Farm Road bridge:

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2
- **Other:** A parking permit (fee for non-residents) must be obtained from the Town of Trumbull to park in one of the town's parks. A free "Fishing Parking Permit" is available to individuals with a valid fishing license and can be obtained through the Trumbull Parks and Recreation Department.

**PINE BROOK**, East Hampton-Haddam

No longer stocked by DEEP.

- **Trout:** 9" Minimum length downstream of Sexton Road.

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# Rivers & Streams

Statewide regulations for seasons, legal methods, and limits (page 21) apply unless a site-specific regulation is listed for a waterbody.

## POMPERAUG RIVER, Southbury-Woodbury (T)

Intermittent sections from the junction of the Nonewaug and Weekepeemee Rivers near Route 47 in Woodbury to ¼ mile below Route 172 in Southbury.

### TROPHY TROUT STREAM

Entire river in Woodbury and Southbury (from near Route 47 to the confluence with Lake Zoar):

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.

## POND BROOK, Newtown (T)

Intermittent sections from Routes 6 and 25 to Hanover Road just above Lake Lillinonah.

## PONSET BROOK, Haddam (T)

Intermittent sections from Route 9 downstream to Higganum Reservoir.

## POOTATUCK RIVER, Newtown (T BK BN)

From Sandy Hook through Rocky Glenn State Park to Walnut Tree Hill Road, just above Lake Zoar.

### DEEP BROOK WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 1)

Approximately 1 mile (as posted) of Pootatuck River, ½ mile upstream and ½ mile downstream of confluence with Deep Brook.

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Barbless single-hook artificial lures and flies only.
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.

## POQUETANUCK BROOK, Preston (T)

Intermittent sections from Hallville Pond to Poquetanuck Cove.

## QUANDUCK BROOK, Killingly-Sterling (T BN)

Intermittent sections from Rhode Island to Moosup River.

## QUINEBAUG RIVER,

Thompson to Norwich (T SMB S CB WP)

Intermittent sections from the Massachusetts line to the Shetucket River.

## QUINNIPIAC RIVER, Southington-Cheshire-Meriden-Wallingford (T BN)

From ¼ mile below Cheshire Road, Cheshire to Route 150, Wallingford.

### WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 1)



Entire river in Southington, and in Cheshire upstream from Cheshire Street.

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Barbless single-hook artificial lures and flies only.
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.

## LOWER RIVER/TIDAL WATERS—no closed season

North Haven-New Haven; Downstream from Route 5 bridge in North Haven to junction with New Haven Harbor.

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" Minimum length.

### CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021

#### (SEE PAGE 20):

- **Carp:** When fishing with bow and arrow downstream of Route 40: daily creel limit-12, of which not more than 3 fish can be greater than 30".

## RAYMOND BROOK, Hebron

No longer stocked by DEEP.

- **Trout:** 9" Minimum length downstream of Old Colchester Road.

## RESERVOIR BROOK, Portland (T)

Intermittent sections from Portland Reservoir to Connecticut River.

## RIPPOWAM RIVER, Stamford (T)

Intermittent sections from ¼ mile upstream of Route 137 to Cold Spring Road near downtown Stamford.

## ROARING BROOK, Glastonbury (T BK BN)

Intermittent sections from Route 94 to Connecticut River.

### ERIC C. SCHLUNTZ WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)

From Route 94 to Connecticut River:

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## ROARING BROOK, Haddam (BK)

Intermittent sections along Ruth Hill Road.

## ROARING BROOK, Stafford-Willington (T BN)

Intermittent sections through Nipmuck State Forest to the Willimantic River.

### WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)



From Route 190 (Stafford) to Willimantic River (Willington):

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## SAFSTROM BROOK, East Hampton

No longer stocked by DEEP.

- **Trout:** 9" Minimum length downstream of Tartia Road.

## SALMON BROOK, Glastonbury (BK BN)

Intermittent sections from headwaters to Keeney Cove.

### WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 2)



Entire brook in Glastonbury downstream of Addison Pond:

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 12" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## SALMON BROOK (East Branch) and

**Salmon Brook (Mainstem),** Granby-East Granby (T BK BN)



From East Street below the gorge in North Granby, along Route 189, crossing Routes 202 and 20, and through Granbrook Town Park to the Farmington River.

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length-entire river from Massachusetts border downstream to the Farmington River.

### WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)



From Route 20 (Granby) to confluence with Farmington River (East Granby).

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

## SALMON BROOK (West Branch),

Hartland-Granby (T BK BN)

From the Granby-Hartland line, along Route 20 through Simsbury Road. Then Salmon Brook Municipal Park and Route 10, below McClellans Game Refuge.

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length downstream of Route 179 (Hartland) to confluence with East Branch.

## SALMON RIVER, Colchester-East

Hampton-East Haddam-Haddam (T)



Intermittent sections from the junction of the Blackledge and Jeremy Rivers to the Leesville Dam.

- **Trout:** 9" Minimum length-entire river downstream to the Route 151 Bridge.

### TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA

From confluence of Blackledge and Jeremy Rivers downstream to Route 16 bridge:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Fly fishing only in midsection of area, as posted.
- **Trout:**
  - » **Catch and Release Only** from September 1 to 6:00 a.m. on the 2nd Saturday in April.
  - » Daily creel limit—2, 9" minimum length from 6:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday in April to August 31.

### TROPHY TROUT STREAM

From Route 16 bridge (East Hampton) to Route 151 bridge (East Haddam-Haddam):

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 9" minimum length.

## LOWER RIVER/TIDAL WATERS—no closed season

Downstream of Route 151 Bridge to junction with Connecticut River.

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.
- **Thermal refuge:** Area within 100 feet of signs indicating such closure posted by DEEP at or near the spring along at Sunrise Resort State Park is closed to all fishing from June 15 to September 15.

## SANDY BROOK,

Barkhamsted-Colebrook-Norfolk (T)

Intermittent sections beginning ¼ mile from the Massachusetts line, along Route 183, through Algonquin State Forest to the confluence with the Still River above Riverton.

- **Trout:** 9" minimum length- entire stream downstream from Massachusetts state line.

## SAUGATUCK RIVER (includes Cobbs Mill Pond), Danbury-Redding-Weston-Westport (T)

Intermittent sections from Route 7 in Danbury through West Redding along Route 53 to the Mark Twain Library Dam (1 mile above Saugatuck Reservoir). Then intermittent sections from 100 feet below the Saugatuck Reservoir Dam tailrace (as posted) through Lyons Plain to Dorr's Mill Dam and ending at the Merritt Parkway.

### WILLIAM "DOC" SKERLICK TROUT

#### MANAGEMENT AREA

In Westport from Dorr's Mill Dam to the Merritt Parkway:

- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Fly fishing only.
- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout:**
  - » **Catch and Release Only** from September 1 to 6:00 a.m. on the 2nd Saturday in April.
  - » Daily creel limit—2, 9" minimum length from 6:00 a.m. on 2nd Saturday in April to August 31.

### SEA RUN TROUT STREAM

Tidal area downstream of Wood Dam (Westport):

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.

## SAUGATUCK RIVER (West Branch), Weston-Westport (T)

Intermittent sections from intersection of Routes 53 and 57 (north of Weston Center) to the Saugatuck River.

## SAWMILL BROOK, Sherman (T BK BN)

From the intersection of Routes 39 and 37 in Sherman Center to Candlewood Lake.

## SCANTIC RIVER,

East Windsor-Enfield-Somers (T)

Intermittent sections from Massachusetts state line to Connecticut River.

## SETH WILLIAMS BROOK, Ledyard (BK)

Intermittent sections from headwaters to Whitfords Brook.

## SHEPAUG RIVER, Roxbury (T)

Intermittent sections along Route 67 from Hodge Park downstream to the Route 67 bridge.



**Rivers & streams open season is from 6:00 am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April to the last day of February unless otherwise stated.**

**SHETUCKET RIVER,** Windham to Norwich (T SMB NP S)



Intermittent sections from Willimantic to Greenville Dam.

#### **TROPHY TROUT STREAM**

Entire river in Windham, Scotland, Sprague, and Norwich:

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Thermal refuges:** Open year-round except in areas within 100 feet of signs indicating such closure posted by DEEP at or near the mouths of tributaries that are closed to all fishing from June 15 to September 15.

#### **ATLANTIC SALMON MANAGEMENT AREA** (SEE PAGE 28 FOR DETAILS) ■

From the Scotland Dam (Scotland) downstream to the Occum Dam (Norwich):

- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods (all species):** From September 1 through March 31, single fly or lure with a single free-swinging hook only. Additional weight may not be added to the line. Anglers are reminded that the season is closed from March 1 to 6:00 a.m. on the 2nd Saturday in April for all species except broodstock Atlantic salmon.

**SHREVILLE BROOK,** Preston (T)

Intermittent sections from Indiantown Brook to Hallville Pond.

**SHUNOCK RIVER,** North Stonington (T BK BN)

Intermittent sections from Hewitts Fly Pond to the Pawcatuck River.

#### **WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3)** ■

Entire stream in North Stonington:

- **Trout:** 9" Minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

**SKUNGAMAUG RIVER,** Coventry-Tolland (T)

Intermittent sections from Route 74 to Hop River.

**SNAKE MEADOW BROOK,** Plainfield-Sterling (T)

Intermittent sections from its source to the Moosup River.

**SPRAIN BROOK,** Woodbury (BN)

Intermittent sections from Painter Hill Road, Route 47 to Paper Mill Road.

**STILL RIVER,** Winsted-Colebrook-Barkhamsted (T)

Intermittent sections in Winsted and from Sandy Brook to Farmington River.

- **Trout:** 9" Minimum length downstream of confluence with the Mad River.

**STILL RIVER,** Eastford-Woodstock (T)

Intermittent sections from Route 171 to the Natchaug River.

**STILL RIVER,** Danbury (T)

From Eagle Street downstream through the town linear park.

**STONY BROOK,** Montville (BK BN)

#### **WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 3) ■**

Entire stream in Montville:

- **Trout:** 9" Minimum length.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

**STONY BROOK,** Suffield (T)

Intermittent sections from South Grand Street to Guild Pond, includes the lower 1/2 mile of Muddy Brook.

**STRATTON BROOK,** Simsbury (T)



Stratton Brook State Park through Mas-sacoe State Forest.

#### **TROUT PARK ■**

Within Stratton Brook State Park:

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**

**SUGAR BROOK,** Plainfield (BK)

Within Sugar Brook Wildlife Management Area.

**SUMNER BROOK,** Middletown (T BK)

Intermittent sections from Millbrook Road downstream to Route 155.

**SUSQUETONSCUT BROOK,**

Bozrah-Lebanon (T)

Intermittent sections from Route 207 to the Yantic River.

**TANKERHOUSE RIVER,** Vernon (T BK BN)

Intermittent sections from Valley Falls Road to Hockanum River.

#### **BELDING-TANKERHOUSE WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 1) ■**

The river and its tributaries (as posted) within Belding WMA and the Tanker-hoosen WMA:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Barbless single-hook artificial lures and flies only.
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.

**TAYLOR BROOK,** Woodstock (T)

Intermittent sections from County Road downstream to Mill Brook.

**TENMILE RIVER,** Cheshire (T)

From Route 70 (Cheshire) to Route 322 in Milldale.

**TENMILE RIVER,** Lebanon-Columbia (T)

Intermittent sections from Route 87 to the Willimantic River.

**TENMILE RIVER,** Sherman-Kent (T SMB)

#### **BULL'S BRIDGE TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA / BASS MANAGEMENT AREA ■**

From the New York line to confluence with the Housatonic River:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.
- **Large & smallmouth bass:** Catch and Release Only.

**THAMES RIVER,** Norwich to New London (WP YP)

**LOWER RIVER/TIDAL WATERS—no closed season** Downstream from Greenville Dam, includes coves.

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.

#### **CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021** (SEE PAGE 20):

- **Carp:** When fishing with bow and arrow: daily creel limit-12, of which not more than 3 fish can be greater than 30".

**WACHOCASTINOOK (RIGA) BROOK,** Salisbury (BK BN)

#### **WILD TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA (Class 1) ■**

Downstream of South Pond within Mt. Riga Corporation property as posted:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Barbless single-hook artificial lures and flies only.
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.

**WAPPOQUIA BROOK** (Quaker Meeting House Brook), Pomfret (BK)

Intermittent sections from Route 97 downstream to Mashomquet Brook.

**WEEKEEPEEMEE RIVER,** Woodbury (T BK BN)

Intermittent sections from Route 132, Peter Road to the confluence with the Nonewaug River.

**WEPAWAUG RIVER** (includes Clarktown Pond), Orange-Milford (T)

Intermittent sections from Route 34, along Grassy Hill Road to 1/2 mile above I-95.

Available at the online DEEP Store

## A PICTORIAL GUIDE TO FRESHWATER FISHES OF CONNECTICUT

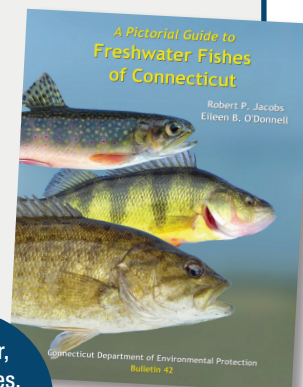
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# Rivers & Streams

Statewide regulations for seasons, legal methods, and limits (page 21) apply unless a site-specific regulation is listed for a waterbody.

## WEST RIVER, Guilford (T)

Intermittent sections from Quonnipaug Lake to Route 1.

## WHETSTONE BROOK, Killingly (T)

Intermittent sections from East Killingly downstream to the Fivemile River.

## WHITFORD BROOK,

Groton-Ledyard-Stonington (T)

Intermittent sections from Long Pond to the Mystic River.

## SEA RUN TROUT STREAM

Downstream of Route 184 bridge:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.

## WHITING RIVER, North Canaan (T)

Intermittent sections from the Massachusetts state line to confluence with Blackberry River.

## WILLIMANTIC RIVER, Stafford to Windham (T)



Intermittent sections from Stafford Springs to confluence with Natchaug River.

## COLE WILDE TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA



In Tolland and Willington from mouth of Roaring Brook downstream to Route 74 bridge:

- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Fly fishing only.
- **Trout:** Catch and Release Only.

## WILLOW BROOK, Cheshire (BK BN)

Along the bike path beginning at Lock 12 at Route 42 downstream to Mount Sanford Road.

## WYASSUP BROOK, North Stonington (BK)

Intermittent sections from Wyassup Lake downstream to Spalding Pond.

## YANTIC RIVER, Bozrah-Norwich (T)

Intermittent sections from Camp Moween Road to Thames River.

## TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA ■

From Barstow Road (Lebanon) downstream to bridge crossing at intersection of Fitchville and Schwartz Roads:

- **Trout & salmon stamp required to fish.**
- **Methods:** Fly fishing only in sections at the upper and lower boundaries of TMA, as posted.
- **Season:** Open year-round.
- **Trout:**
  - » **Catch and Release Only** from September 1 to 6:00 a.m. on the 2nd Saturday in April.
  - » Daily creel limit—2, 9" minimum length from 6:00 a.m. on the 2nd Saturday in April–August 31.

## LOWER RIVER/TIDAL WATERS—no closed season

Downstream from just below the falls at Indian leap in Norwich.

- **Trout:** Daily creel limit—2, 15" minimum length.

## CHANGE EXPECTED IN JUNE, 2021

(SEE PAGE 20):

- **Carp:** When fishing with bow and arrow: daily creel limit—12, of which not more than 3 fish can be greater than 30".

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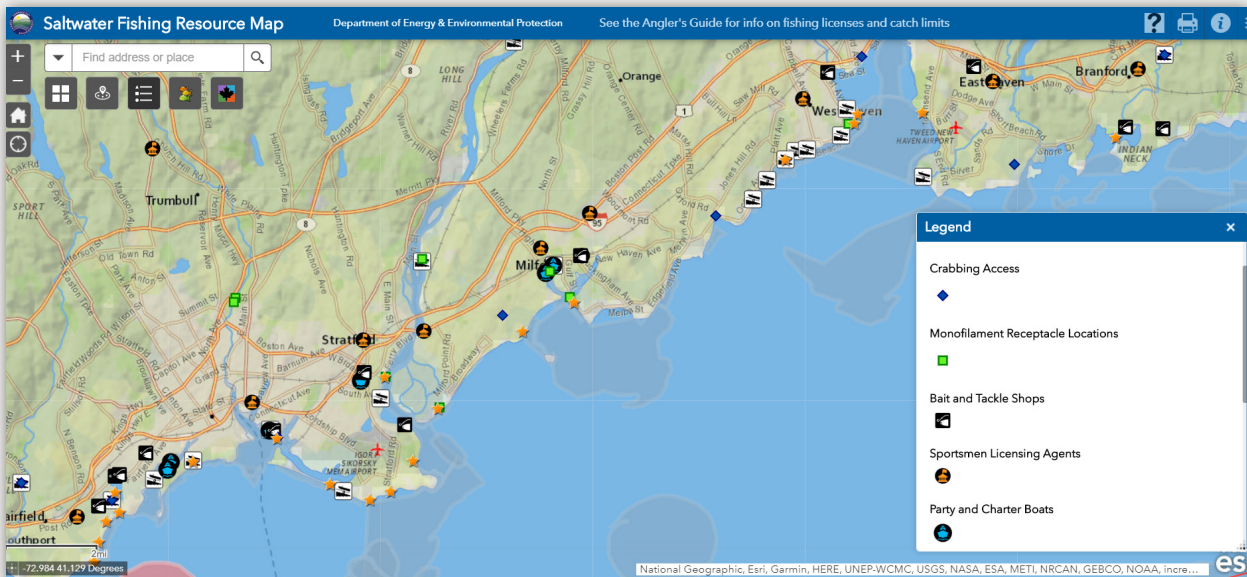


# MARINE FISHING



## SALTWATER FISHING RESOURCE MAP

This online map shows the locations of points of interest related to saltwater fishing, including sporting licensing agents, bait and tackle shops, enhanced opportunity shore fishing sites, car top boat launches with Long Island Sound access, trailered boat launches with Long Island Sound access and party/charter boat locations. For information about these points of interest, go to [www.ct.gov/deep/saltwaterfishingresourcemap](http://www.ct.gov/deep/saltwaterfishingresourcemap).



## ANGLERS PLEASE NOTE RECIPROCITY

New York, Rhode Island, Maine and Massachusetts also have marine license requirements. Though Connecticut has reciprocity with these neighboring states, residents of Connecticut are required to have a CT Resident Marine Waters Sport or an All-Waters Fishing License to fish in the Marine District.

## ATTENTION!

Effective Dec. 1, 2020: anyone fishing with natural baits (live, dead, or cut) with the intent to catch striped bass **MUST** be using an inline circle hook. This includes when adding bait to an artificial lure. <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Saltwater/Striped-Bass-and-Circle-Hooks>

# Marine Recreational Fishing Regulations



Scan the code for more information or visit  
[https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/  
 Saltwater/Saltwater-Fishing](https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Saltwater/Saltwater-Fishing)

Minimum length is measured from the tip  
 of the snout (head) to the end of the tail.

## NEW for 2021

No person shall engage in angling for striped bass with whole, cut or live natural bait unless such person uses an inline circle hook. For purposes of this subsection, "inline circle hook" means a fishing hook on which the point and barb are not offset from the plane of the shank and bend of such hook and such point is perpendicular to such shank. Visit <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Saltwater/Striped-Bass-and-Circle-Hooks> for more information.

## SPECIES, MINIMUM SIZES, DAILY LIMITS, & FISHING SEASONS

**Effective 2021:** Species regulations are subject to change. For legal purposes, the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies must be consulted. Visit [www.ct.gov/deep/laws-regs](http://www.ct.gov/deep/laws-regs) or contact Marine Fisheries (860-434-6043) for current regulations.

**Enhanced Opportunity Shore Fishing Program:** This Marine Fisheries Program is part of a broader Department effort to improve the quality of access and fishing to our Public Trust marine fisheries resources in CT, especially in urban areas. This unique program relies on reduced size limit regulations to allow angler's young and old alike the opportunity to experience the joy and relaxation of outdoor recreation and the satisfaction of catching their own dinner. At the same time, the design of this program assures that marine fish conservation objectives continue to be met.

Red type signifies regulations change in 2021.

See [www.ct.gov/deep/saltwaterfishing](http://www.ct.gov/deep/saltwaterfishing) for updated recreational fishing regulations.

SPECIES	NOTES	MINIMUM LENGTH	DAILY CREEL LIMIT (fish per angler)	OPEN SEASON
<b>Alewife/ Blueback Herring</b>	The taking of Alewife and Blueback Herring is prohibited.			
<b>American Eel</b>	<b>Eel Pots</b> limited to 2 pots per person, personal use only. <b>Legal Methods:</b> Angling, Snagging, Spearing, Eel Pot Silver eel harvest is prohibited.	9"	25	Year Round
<b>American Shad</b>	All state waters closed except the Connecticut River.	None	6 (American and Hickory Shad in aggregate)	Year Round
<b>Atlantic Cod</b>	Visit <a href="https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs/index.html">https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs/index.html</a> for updated federal regulations.	21"	10	Year Round
<b>Black Sea Bass</b>	<b>Length excludes the tendril (tail filament). See <a href="http://www.ct.gov/deep/saltwaterfishing">www.ct.gov/deep/saltwaterfishing</a> for Party/Charter fishing regulations.</b>	15"	5	May 19 – December 31
<b>Bluefish</b>	See <a href="http://www.ct.gov/deep/saltwaterfishing">www.ct.gov/deep/saltwaterfishing</a> for Party/Charter fishing regulations.	None	3 (including snapper bluefish)	Year Round
<b>Haddock</b>	Visit <a href="https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs/index.html">https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs/index.html</a> for updated federal regulations.	18"	None	Year Round
<b>Hickory Shad</b>		None	6 (American and Hickory Shad in aggregate)	Year Round
<b>Menhaden</b>		None	50 fish or 5 gallons (whichever is the greater amount)	Year Round
<b>Pollock</b>	Visit <a href="https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs/index.html">https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs/index.html</a> for updated federal regulations.	19"	None	Year Round
<b>Red Drum</b>	No person shall possess any red drum greater than 27 inches measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail. Any red drum greater than 27" shall, without avoidable injury, be returned immediately to the water from which taken.	None	None	None
<b>Scup (Porgy)</b>	See <a href="http://www.ct.gov/deep/saltwaterfishing">www.ct.gov/deep/saltwaterfishing</a> for Party/Charter fishing regulations.	9"	30	Year Round
	At Enhanced Opportunity Shore Fishing Access Sites (see <b>Appendix A</b> on page 56)	8"	30	
<b>Sea-Run Trout</b> (Brown, Brook, Rainbow)		15"	2 (all species in aggregate)	Year Round
<b>Striped Bass</b> (see callout above)	No person shall possess any striped bass less than 28 inches. No person shall possess any striped bass greater than or equal to 35 inches measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail. Any striped bass less than 28" or greater than or equal to 35" shall, without avoidable injury, be returned immediately to the water from which taken. No spearing or gaffing.	28" - 35"	1	Year Round
<b>Summer Flounder</b> (Fluke)	On the water, fillets must meet minimum length or be accompanied by a legal sized rack (carcass) See <a href="http://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Saltwater/Saltwater-Fishing">portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Saltwater/Saltwater-Fishing</a> for updated regulations	19"	4	May 4 – September 30
	At Enhanced Opportunity Shore Fishing Access Sites (see <b>Appendix A</b> on page 56)	17"	4	May 4 – September 30
<b>Tautog (Blackfish)</b>		16"	2	April 1 – April 30 and July 1 – August 31
		16"	3	October 10 – November 28
<b>Weakfish</b>		16"	1	Year Round
<b>White Perch</b>		7"	30	Year Round
<b>Winter Flounder</b>		12"	2	April 1 – December 31
<b>Sharks/Tuna*</b>	Highly Migratory Species (HMS) permit is required to take, possess, or land any shark species, other than smooth or spiny dogfish. To obtain an HMS permit see <a href="http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/aps/permits">www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/aps/permits</a> or call NMFS Customer Service at 888-872-8862			

\*Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Compliance Guide: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/atlantic-highly-migratory-species/atlantic-highly-migratory-species-fishery-compliance-guides>. Striped bass may only be taken by angling (spearing is prohibited) and the use of a gaff in the taking of striped bass is prohibited. However, striped bass legally taken by spearing in another state may be landed in Connecticut. No person shall land or possess on the waters of this state or on any parcel of land, structure, or portion of a roadway abutting tidal waters of this state any striped bass from which the head or tail has been removed or which has otherwise been rendered unidentifiable as a striped bass or unable to be measured.

**Summer flounder filleting**— if summer flounder are filleted onboard either: (1) each fillet is required to meet the minimum fish length, or (2) the carcass (rack) of the fish from which the fillet was removed has to be retained and the carcass has to meet the minimum length. This rule shall not be construed to prevent filleting of fish on shore or dockside.



## DEMARCATION BETWEEN MARINE AND INLAND DISTRICT

A marine sport fishing license is required downstream of locations listed below or in areas designated as being entirely in the Marine District. Unless indicated below, the demarcation line is the first bridge upstream from the river mouth or cove.

- **Alewife Cove:** New London-Waterford. Entirely in Marine District.
- **Beebe Cove:** Groton. Entirely in Marine District.
- **Blackhall River:** Old Lyme. Rte. 156.
- **Branford River:** Branford. Montowese Street.
- **Bride Brook:** East Lyme. First railroad crossing.
- **Byram River:** Greenwich. First railroad crossing.
- **Clinton River:** (Indian River) Clinton. Rte. 1.
- **Connecticut River:** I-95 bridge. Old Lyme-Old Saybrook.
- **Duck River:** Old Lyme. Entirely in Marine District.
- **East Creek:** Guilford. The tide gates at Guilford dock.
- **Housatonic River:** Milford-Stratford. Merritt Parkway.
- **Indian Harbor:** Greenwich. First railroad crossing.
- **Indian River:** Milford. Rte. 122.
- **Jordan Cove:** Waterford. First railroad crossing.
- **Lieutenant River:** Old Lyme. Rte. 156.
- **Menunketesuck River:** Westbrook. Rte. 1.
- **Mianus River:** Greenwich. Dam north of Boston Post Road.
- **Mill River:** Fairfield. Dam at Harbor Road.
- **Mill River:** New Haven. Tide gates at State Street.
- **Mumford Cove:** Groton. Entirely in Marine District.
- **Mystic River:** Stonington-Groton. 500 ft. north of Rte. 1.
- **Niantic River:** East Lyme-Waterford. Golden Spur Bridge, Rte. 1.
- **Norwalk River:** Norwalk. Wall Street.
- **Oyster River:** Milford. Rte. 122.
- **Palmer's Cove:** Groton. Entirely in Marine District.
- **Patchogue River:** Westbrook. Rte. 1.
- **Pawcatuck River:** Stonington. 500 ft. north of Rte. 1.
- **Pequonnock River:** Bridgeport. North Avenue (Rte. 1).
- **Poquonnock River:** Groton. 500 ft. north of Rte. 1.
- **Pequot-Sepos Cove:** Stonington. 500 ft. north of Rte. 1.
- **Quiambaug Cove:** Stonington. 500 ft. north of Rte. 1.
- **Quinnipiac River:** New Haven. Rte. 17.
- **Sasco Brook:** Westport. Buckley's Mill Dam, above Rte. 1.
- **Saugatuck River:** Westport. Kings Highway.
- **Shaws Cove:** New London. Entirely in Marine District.
- **Stonington Harbor, Lambert Cove and Quanauck Cove:** Stonington. 500 ft. north of Rte. 1.
- **Thames River:** Groton-New London. 500 ft. North of Rte. 1, I-95 bridge.
- **Tokeneke Brook:** Darien. Old Farm Road.
- **Wequetequock River:** Stonington. 500 ft. north of Rte. 1.
- **West River:** Guilford. Rte. 146.
- **West River:** West Haven. Tide gates at Orange Ave. (Rte. 1).

For a complete listing, consult section 26-108-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, and section 26-109 of the Connecticut General Statutes. These can be found at [www.ct.gov/deep/laws-regs](http://www.ct.gov/deep/laws-regs).

For more information, go to <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Saltwater/Saltwater-Fishing>

## HOW TO CATCH FISH

Contact your local bait and tackle shop for updated fishing information. See page 14 for a list of bait and tackle shops or go to [www.ct.gov/deep/baitandtackle](http://www.ct.gov/deep/baitandtackle).

### STRIPED BASS



©Tomelleri

#### Habitat

- Large rivers in spring and fall
- Estuaries and bays in summer

#### Fishing Method

- Drifting with live bait
- Jigging and trolling
- Bottom fishing with bait
- Casting to fish

#### Baits & Lures

- Live bait, menhaden, eels, shad and sand worms
- All types of swimming lures, plastic and rubber baits

### BLACK SEA BASS



#### Habitat

- Estuaries and Sound
- Rock piles/reefs
- Oyster and mussel beds
- Pilings and jetties

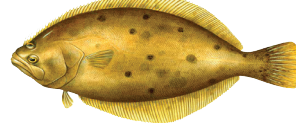
#### Fishing Method

- Anchored over structure, reefs
- Bottom fishing
- Fishing with bait

#### Baits & Lures

- Sand worms, conch, shrimp, mummichogs, silversides, mussels/clams and baited jigs or jigs with plastic/rubber bodies or trailer

### FLUKE



#### Habitat

- Estuaries and bays
- Lower sections of rivers
- Hard bottom and channels preferred

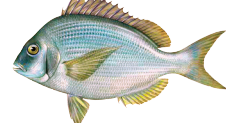
#### Fishing Method

- Drifting with bait
- Jigging up and down
- Casting and slowly moving jig with bait

#### Baits & Lures

- Live/dead bait (bunker, mummichogs, shiners & silversides), cut squid strips, baited jigs and plastic baits

### SCUP



#### Habitat

- Estuaries and bays
- Rock piles/reefs
- Oyster and mussel beds
- Pilings and jetties

#### Fishing Method

- Anchored over structure/reefs
- Bottom fishing
- Live or dead bait

#### Baits & Lures

- Squid or conch strips, sand worms, shrimp, and mussels/clams

Looking for a place to fish, launch a boat, a bait and tackle shop or a party/charter vessel to go fishing on? Check out the Saltwater Fishing Resource Map at <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Saltwater/Saltwater-Fishing>

# Enhanced Fishing Opportunities & Volunteer Angler Survey Programs

Scan the code for more information or visit  
<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Saltwater/Saltwater-Fishing>



## ENHANCED OPPORTUNITY SHORE FISHING PROGRAM

This Marine Fisheries program is part of a broader Department effort to improve the quality of access and fishing to our Public Trust marine fisheries resources in CT, especially in urban areas. This unique program relies on reduced size limit regulations to allow anglers young and old alike the opportunity to experience the joy and relaxation of outdoor recreation and the satisfaction of catching their own dinner. At the same time, the design of this program assures that marine fish conservation objectives continue to be met.

**Appendix A.** Public Shore Fishing Access Sites where Summer Flounder/Fluke (17 inch min. length) and Scup (8 inch min. length) may be taken at a smaller length limit. Please see page 54 for a complete list of marine recreational fishing regulations including creel limit and open seasons.

## MARINE VOLUNTEER ANGLER SURVEY PROGRAM

The Marine Fisheries Program is seeking marine recreational anglers who will volunteer to participate in the **Connecticut Volunteer Angler Survey (VAS)** Program. The VAS Program is designed to collect fishing trip and catch information from marine recreational (hook and line) anglers who volunteer to record their angling activities via a logbook. **VAS anglers contribute valuable fisheries-specific information concerning striped bass, fluke, bluefish, scup, tautog and other important finfish species used in monitoring and assessing fish populations inhabiting marine waters.**

Participants will have the choice of either filling out the traditional paper logbooks and mailing them back or by entering their data electronically by a computer web based application. In either case, paper logbooks will still be sent out to each angler.

Both the VAS paper logbook and the computer electronic version are easy to enter. Each participating angler is assigned a personal code number for confidentiality. The paper logbook instructions are located on the inside cover and the electronic version will have a specified menu with assisted help information. Upon completion of the paper logbook, tape the pre-postage paid logbook and drop it in the mail. All paper logbooks are returned to each angler for their own personal records upon data entry. Anglers that participate are also provided with updated program results and public hearing notices concerning recreational fishery management regulations.

## LOOK FOR THIS SIGN!



## APPENDIX A: Enhanced Opportunity Shore Fishing Program Access Sites

Learn more by selecting any site below from the drop-down list on [www.depdata.ct.gov/maps/coastalaccess/index.html](http://www.depdata.ct.gov/maps/coastalaccess/index.html). Also see Marine Regulations on page 54. \*Parking fees apply at these locations. See town park & recreation dept. for more information.

SITE	CITY
<b>FAIRFIELD COUNTY</b>	
Pleasure Beach Family Fishing Pier	Bridgeport
Saint Mary's by the Sea*	Bridgeport
Seaside Park*	Bridgeport
Ash Creek Open Space	Fairfield
Jennings Beach*	Fairfield
Penfield Beach*	Fairfield
Penfield Reef	Fairfield
Calf Pasture Beach*	Norwalk
Maritime Aquarium Park	Norwalk
Bond's Dock	Stratford
Long Beach*	Stratford
Point-No-Point*	Stratford
Russian Beach	Stratford
Short Beach Park*	Stratford
Sherwood Island State Park	Westport
<b>MIDDLESEX COUNTY</b>	
South Cove Causeway	Old Saybrook
Saybrook Point	Old Saybrook
<b>NEW HAVEN COUNTY</b>	
Branford Point*	Branford
Chaffinch Island Park	Guilford
Hammonasset Beach State Park	Madison
Connecticut Audubon Coastal Center	Milford
Gulf Beach*	Milford
Silver Sands State Park	Milford
Criscuolo Park	New Haven
Fort Nathan Hale Park	New Haven
Tomlinson Bridge Fishing Pier	New Haven
Bradley Point Park	West Haven
Sandy Point	West Haven
Sandy Point Bird Sanctuary	West Haven
<b>NEW LONDON COUNTY</b>	
Cini Memorial Park*	East Lyme
Hole-in-the-Wall Beach*	East Lyme
McCook Park*	East Lyme
Rocky Neck State Park	East Lyme
Bluff Point State Park and Reserve	Groton
Eastern Point Beach*	Groton
UConn-Avery Point*	Groton
City Pier and Waterfront Park	New London
Fort Trumbull State Park	New London
DEEP Marine Headquarters—Ferry Landing Park	Old Lyme
Mystic River Park	Stonington
Stonington Point	Stonington
Stonington Town Dock Fishing Pier	Stonington
Harkness Memorial State Park	Waterford
Mago Point Park	Waterford
Waterford Beach Park*	Waterford





# Recreational Fishing—Bait Species, Lobster & Crabs

## TAKING OF BAIT SPECIES

**For personal use/not for sale:** Recreational license required in marine district.

**Net and traps which may be used to catch bait species only (see species list below)**

- Cast Nets.
- Minnow Traps: no larger than 20" long by 15" in diameter.
- Umbrella Nets: not more than 4 ft. in length by 4 ft. in width.
- Scoop or Scap Nets: no larger than 36" in diameter.
- Seines: no longer than 30 feet in length.
- Up to two eel pots.
- Hook & Line.
- By hand.

**Species that may be taken using the gears listed above**

- Menhaden (see possession limit on page 54: [Also see Gillnetting Menhaden](#))
- Striped Killifish and Banded Killifish
- Atlantic Silverside
- Tidewater Silverside
- Mummichogs
- Sea Herring (Atlantic Herring)
- Sand Lances (Sand Eels)
- American Eel (see possession limit on page 54)
- Sea Lamprey
- Bay Anchovy
- Mullet Species
- Sheepshead Minnow
- Shrimp Species
- Green, Fiddler, Asian Shore and Hermit Crabs

## SHARK SPECIES YOU MAY ENCOUNTER IN COASTAL WATERS OF CONNECTICUT



Sand Tiger Shark



Sandbar (Brown) Shark

Protected and prohibited species must be released unharmed. For more information, go to <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/outreach-and-education/shark-identification-placard>

**IF YOU DON'T KNOW, LET IT GO!**

## GILLNETTING MENHADEN

**Personal Use Gillnet License Required (\$100.00)**

### Legal Menhaden Capture Methods

Use of a single gillnet, not more than 60 feet in length and 3 inch minimum mesh size.

### Prohibited

The taking of any species other than menhaden.

### Required

- Annual Report of Catch
- See Personal Use Gillnet License Guidelines for a complete list of requirements.

### Info

- Call 860-434-6043, ask for the Personal Use Menhaden Gillnet License Guidelines.
- Or go to [www.ct.gov/deep/fishing](http://www.ct.gov/deep/fishing) and search for Personal Use License.
- Or go to <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/fishing/commercial/marinecircpdf.pdf>

## SHELLFISH

**For personal use/not for sale:** Town Shellfishing License required.

### Species Include

- Mussels
- Clams
- Oysters
- Scallops

Contact the town where you plan to harvest shellfish for permit information, or the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Aquaculture at 203-874-0696. email: [ctdeptag@ct.gov](mailto:ctdeptag@ct.gov).

## LOBSTER

**Personal Use Lobster License Required (\$60.00)**

### Legal Lobster Capture Methods:

- Ten pots or less (pot tags required)
- Skin Diving
- SCUBA Diving
- Hand Capturing

### Required

- Annual Report of Catch
- See Guidelines for Personal Use Lobster Fishing for a list of requirements.

### Info

- Call 860-434-6043, ask for the Guidelines for Personal Use Lobster Fishing in Connecticut.
- Lobster Gauges can be purchased (\$4) at the Marine Fisheries office in Old Lyme or from DEEP Licensing at: 79 Elm Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Hartford, CT 06106-5127 860-424-3105
- Or go to [www.ct.gov/deep/fishing](http://www.ct.gov/deep/fishing) and search for Personal Use License.
- Or go to <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/fishing/commercial/marinecircpdf.pdf>

## BLUE CRAB

**For personal use/not for sale:** No license required. **Blue crab fact sheet:** [portal.ct.gov/-/media/deep/fishing/saltwater/BLUECRABFACTSHEETpdf.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/deep/fishing/saltwater/BLUECRABFACTSHEETpdf.pdf)



Luke Wiggins. Tautog 32 1/2".  
New Catch & Release State Record.

### Legal Blue Crab Capture Methods:

- Scoop Net, Hand Line, Dip Net, Trot Line
- Star Crab Trap (or similar device)
- Circular Topless Trap (not exceeding 26" in diameter)
- Semi-Circular Cylindrical Trap (12" or less in diameter)

### Open Season

May 1–November 30.

### Minimum Shell Width: (Spike Tip to Spike Tip)

- 5" hard shell crabs
- 3½" soft shell crabs

### Prohibited

- Possession of uncooked blue crab meat without the body shell attached.
- Possession of more than 2 claws per body.
- Possession of egg bearing females.
- Chesapeake-style crabs traps.

### Required

All devices must be attended at all times.

## JONAH CRAB

**For personal use/not for sale:** No license required. 50 crabs per day.

## SQUID

**For personal use/not for sale:** No license required if taken using a squid jig.

 **Reduce Catch and Release mortality**  
— use circle hooks.  
<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Saltwater/Striped-Bass-and-Circle-Hooks>

Resources For Fishermen:  
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resources>

For additional information, refer to the Marine Fisheries Information Circular by visiting the <https://portal.ct.gov/deepfishing> or call the Marine Fisheries Program at: 860-434-6043.

# Shoreline Fishing in Coastal State Parks

During regular hours, a vehicle parking fee is required for out-of-state vehicles to enter most of the state parks. There is no parking fee for CT registered vehicles. Parking fees are collected from 8 a.m.–6:30 p.m. on weekends and holidays, and 8 a.m.–6:30 p.m. during the week except at state parks marked with an asterisk. Late day fees (4 p.m.–6:30 p.m. any day) for Harkness, Hammonasset, Rocky Neck and Sherwood Island are \$7 for non-residents. For more information please see the coastal state parks website: [www.ct.gov/deep/stateparks](http://www.ct.gov/deep/stateparks).

- \* Parking Fees subject to change.
-  Fishing Line Recycling Receptacle



Camping

## NIGHT FISHING RULES

Anglers entering a park by vehicle must obtain a vehicle permit in order to park and fish. Between the hours of 6:30 am and 8:00 am no vehicle will be allowed into the day-use area of the park. Individuals entering the park without a vehicle do not require a permit, but must possess fishing tackle (rod & reel, bait, light, etc.) and engage in fishing.

## BLUFF POINT STATE PARK & COASTAL RESERVE, GROTON

Fishing is allowed 24 hours a day.

- **Fish to be caught:** Winter flounder and snapper bluefish can be caught at Poquonnock Cove. Bluefish, striped bass, hickory shad, summer flounder, little tunny, blue crab, striped sea robin and tautog can be caught from the beach.
- **Directions:** I-95, Exit 88 to Route 117 south, right onto Route 1, left onto Depot Road. Follow to end.
- **Parking Fees:** None.

## FORT TRUMBULL STATE PARK, NEW LONDON



Fishing access (handicapped accessible), 24 hour pedestrian access from Riverfront Walk to Fishing Pier on the Thames River.

- **Fish to be caught:** Bluefish, striped bass, summer flounder, hickory shad, scup, tautog, winter flounder, weakfish, blue crab, striped sea robin and black sea bass.
- **Directions:** I-95N, Exit 83 (Huntington Street). I-95S, Exit 84.
- **Parking Fees:** None. Telephone: 860-444-7591.

## FERRY LANDING STATE PARK, OLD LYME



Fishing access (handicapped accessible) consists of a fenced bulkhead area and a fishing/crabbing boardwalk. Parking is available inside the park after hours for fishing/crabbing only.

- **Fish to be caught:** Bluefish, striped bass, summer flounder, catfish, American eel, hickory shad, blue crab, striped sea robin and white perch.
- **Directions:** I-95, Exit 70 to Route 156. After ¼ mile make a right onto Ferry Road. Follow to end. Telephone: 860-434-6043.
- **Parking Fees:** None.

## HAMMONASSET BEACH STATE PARK, MADISON



Fishing is allowed only at the Meigs Point Jetty (south end) and at West Beach Jetty during the peak season from 8 a.m. to sunset. Night fishing is permitted along the entire beach (2 miles). **The entire beach (2 miles) is not open to night fishing during the off-season (October–May).**

- **Fish to be caught:** Tautog, winter flounder, bluefish, summer flounder, scup, weakfish, striped bass, blue crab, striped sea robin and black sea bass.
- **Directions:** I-95, Exit 62. Telephone: 203-245-2785.
- **Parking Fees\***
  - Weekdays: non-resident—\$15.00
  - Weekend/Holiday: non-resident—\$22.00
  - After 4 pm any day: non-resident—\$7.00

## HARKNESS MEMORIAL STATE PARK, WATERFORD

Fishing is allowed along the beach. No swimming allowed.

- **Fish to be caught:** Tautog, bluefish, striped bass and scup (porgy) can be caught off the rocky point, blue crab, striped sea robin and summer flounder off the beach.
- **Directions:** I-95, Exit 75. Take Route 1 North to Avery Lane on right. Follow Avery Lane to Route 213. Follow Route 213 to the park.

Telephone: 860-443-5725.

- **Parking Fees\***
  - Weekdays: non-resident—\$10.00
  - Weekend/Holiday: non-resident—\$15.00

## ROCKY NECK STATE PARK, EAST LYME



Fishing is allowed on the jetty year round. The entire beach and jetty is open to fishing during the off-season. Jetty located on right side of beach. **Please note:** When no night rangers are on staff and on major holiday weekends, no vehicles are permitted in park for night fishing.

- **Fish to be caught:** Tautog, winter flounder, bluefish, striped bass, scup (porgy), blue crab, striped sea robin and black sea bass can be caught off the jetty. Crabbing is allowed at designated areas.
- **Directions:** I-95, Exit 72 to Route 156. Telephone: 860-739-5471.
- **Parking Fees\***
  - Weekdays: non-resident—\$15.00
  - Weekend/Holiday: non-resident—\$22.00

## SHERWOOD ISLAND STATE PARK, WESTPORT



Fishing is allowed at Sherwood Point, East and West Jetty during the open season (April 15–Sept. 30). The entire beach is open to fishing during the off-season from 8 a.m. to sunset only.

- **Fish to be caught:** Tautog, bluefish, scup, summer flounder, winter flounder, blue crab, striped sea robin and striped bass can be caught off Sherwood Point.
- **Directions:** I-95, Exit 18. Telephone: 203-226-6983.
- **Parking Fees\***
  - Weekdays: non-resident—\$15.00
  - Weekend/Holiday: non-resident—\$22.00

## SILVER SANDS STATE PARK

### AFTER HOURS FISHING PARKING/CHARLES ISLAND, MILFORD

Fishing is open throughout the area including the sand spit which extends about a mile from the mainland to Charles Island. **Caution is advised when fishing or walking the Tombolo (sand bar).** Swift tidal currents during a flood tide can make passage dangerous and persons unfamiliar with the area may be stranded on Charles Island until low tide.

- **Fish to be caught:** Bluefish, striped bass, summer flounder, hickory shad, blue crab, striped sea robin and weakfish.
- **Directions:** I-95, Exit 35. Follow Schoolhouse Road south to Route 1 (Bridgeport Avenue). Turn left onto Route 1 then right at first light (Silver Sands Park Way). Follow Park Way and turn left at next light (Meadowside Road). Follow Meadowside 0.7 mile and turn right at Robert Treat Parkway which then becomes Surf Avenue. Follow Surf Avenue to end at East Broadway and turn right. The After Hours Fishing Parking Lot is at the end of East Broadway.
- Hiking the Tombola (Sand Bar) while it is covered in water is prohibited.
- **Parking Fees:** None.

## SHORELINE FISHING & PROPERTY RIGHTS



### CT Coastal Management Program

Connecticut's intertidal shore belongs to the people. Under the common law public trust doctrine, the public may freely use land and waters waterward of the mean high water line to fish. The public trust area includes beaches, rocky shores and open waters along tidal and navigable waters. Fishing in the public trust area is not trespassing; the DEEP encourages anglers to enjoy their rights to use the public trust lands for fishing. However, anglers should also respect the rights of adjacent landowners by not crossing private property without permission and by leaving the shoreline clean and litter free.



# Coastal Boat Launches

For other boat launches, see the 2021 CT Boaters Guide (<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Boating/Boating-and-Paddling>) and the CT Coastal Access Guide ([www.depdata.ct.gov/maps/coastalaccess/index.html](http://www.depdata.ct.gov/maps/coastalaccess/index.html)). Call 860-424-3034 or e-mail [coastal.access@ct.gov](mailto:coastal.access@ct.gov) for questions or additional information.

Scan the code to view the CT Boaters Guide:



## BARN ISLAND, STONINGTON

- **Parking:** 60 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, seasonal.
- **Conditions:** Large ramp with floating dock.
- **Use:** Heavy use on weekends.
- **Access:** I-95, Exit 91. South to N. Main Street to Rte. 1. Greenhaven Road to Palmer Neck Road, follow to end.

## BAYBERRY LANE, GROTON

- **Parking:** 30 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, seasonal.
- **Conditions:** Steep ramp, shallow at low tide.
- **Use:** Heavy use on weekends.
- **Access:** I-95, Exit 87. Rte. 349 becomes Shennecossett Road, left onto Bayberry Lane.

## BRANFORD RIVER, BRANFORD

- **Parking:** 50 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, seasonal.
- **Conditions:** Steep ramp, shallow at low tide.
- **Use:** Low use.
- **Access:** I-95, Exit 53. Rte. 142 left onto Stannard Avenue to Goodsell Point Road.

## CONNECTICUT RIVER, OLD SAYBROOK

- **Parking:** 75 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, year round.
- **Conditions:** Large ramp with floating dock.
- **Use:** Heavy use on weekends.
- **Access:** Exit 1 off Rte. 9 North. End of ramp turn right. Located under Baldwin Bridge, (I-95) off Ferry Road.

## DOCK ROAD, WATERFORD

- **Parking:** 45 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, seasonal.
- **Conditions:** Ramp is steep and narrow; Launching may be difficult during strong southwesterly winds.
- **Use:** Moderate use on weekends.
- **Access:** I-95, Exit 74. Rte. 213, south on Goshen Road, launch straight ahead.

## THAMES RIVER (KENNETH E. STREETER BOAT LAUNCH), GROTON

- **Parking:** 25 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, seasonal.
- **Conditions:** Launching may be difficult during strong northwesterly winds.
- **Use:** Moderate use on weekends.
- **Access:** I-95 North, Exit 85, bear right onto Bridge Street, next right onto Fairview Avenue, launch on left.

## THAMES RIVER, NEW LONDON

- **Parking:** 50 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, seasonal.
- **Conditions:** Good launching conditions.
- **Use:** Moderate use on weekends.
- **Access:** I-95 North, Exit 84, left onto Williams Street. Turn east onto State Pier Road, launch at end, under I-95, Goldstar Bridge.

## EAST RIVER, GUILFORD/MADISON

- **Parking:** 25 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, seasonal.
- **Conditions:** Concrete planks.
- **Use:** Moderate use on weekends.
- **Access:** I-95, Exit 59. Located on east side of East River. Take Rte. 1 onto Neck Road and follow to end.

## FOUR MILE RIVER, SOUTH LYME

- **Parking:** 55 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, seasonal.
- **Conditions:** Shallow launching area; low railroad bridge clearance.
- **Use:** Low use.
- **Access:** I-95, Exit 71. Rte. 156, east on Oakridge Drive, first right to launch area.

## GREAT ISLAND, OLD LYME

- **Parking:** 35 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, seasonal.
- **Conditions:** Shallow at low tide.
- **Use:** Heavy use on weekends.
- **Access:** I-95, Exit 70. Rte. 156 east, south to end of Smith Neck Road and Great Island Wildlife Area.

## HOUSATONIC RIVER, MILFORD/DEVON

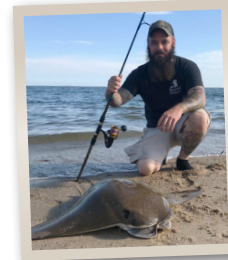
- **Parking:** 50 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, seasonal.
- **Conditions:** Launching may be difficult due to swift river currents at times of abnormal tides or extreme flooding.
- **Use:** Heavy use on weekends.
- **Access:** Located on the east side of the Housatonic River under I-95 (Exit 34). Take Route 1 onto Naugatuck Ave. Access approx. 1 mile on the left/

## NIANITIC RIVER, WATERFORD

- **Parking:** 100 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, year round.
- **Conditions:** Large ramp with floating dock.
- **Use:** Heavy use on weekends.
- **Access:** I-95, Exit 74. ¼ mile northeast of Rte. 156 bridge across Niantic River.

## SAUGATUCK RIVER, WESTPORT

- **Parking:** 25 cars with trailers.
- **Toilets:** Chemical, seasonal.
- **Conditions:** Shallow launching conditions at low tide.
- **Use:** Moderate use on weekends.
- **Access:** I-95, Exit 17 east side of river. Rte. 136 to Compo Road, first right to launch.



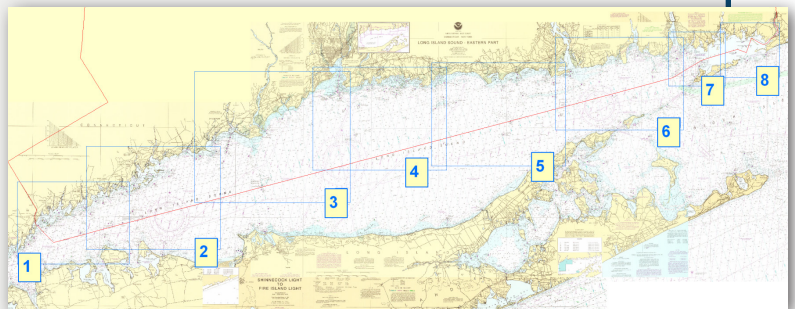
Al Zuppe.  
Cownoise Ray 37 lbs  
12.48 oz, 57 1/4".  
New State Record.

## CONNECTICUT STATE WATERS BOUNDARY

### Fishing Across State Boundary Lines

Anglers are reminded that several states have areas of jurisdiction in Long Island Sound and fishing regulations can vary between these states. When on the waters or shores of each state, anglers must comply with all regulations of that state, regardless of the port they intend to return to. To be legal when crossing state boundary lines, anglers must abide by the most restrictive of the states' regulations for each species. Latitude/Longitude coordinates depicting the Connecticut boundary line in Long Island Sound and Fishers Island Sound are available in the Marine Fisheries Information Circular which can be found on the DEEP web site: <https://portal.ct.gov/deepfishing>. The Information Circular can also be obtained by calling 860-434-6043 or email: [deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov](mailto:deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov).

[www.ct.gov/deep/statewatersboundary](http://www.ct.gov/deep/statewatersboundary)



Long Island Sound map is for general reference only.  
For detailed information, please refer to Navigational Charts.

# State Record Marine Fish (Harvested)



Red type signifies a new record set in 2020.

CATEGORY	COMMON NAME	WEIGHT		LENGTH	LOCATION CAUGHT	ANGLER	YEAR CAUGHT
		lbs.	oz.				
STATE RECORD MARINE FISH	Albacore	68	14	46.5"	Atlantis Canyon	John Dagon	2012
	American Eel	5	3	39.5"	West Haven	Alyssa Zuppe	2017
	Atlantic Bonito	11	8	29.5"	Ocean Beach	Mark Drummey	2017
	Atlantic Chub Mackerel	2	1	14"	Montauk Shoal	Brandon Collins	2016
	Atlantic Cod	45	—		South of Block Island	John Chomen	2004
	Black Sea Bass	7	8	25"	Six Mile Reef, Clinton	Mike Lane	2005
	Blackfish (Tautog)	26	9.6	34"	Two Tree Island	Thien Nguyen	2015
	Bluefin Tuna	770	—		Block Island Sound	Lester Debetta	1990
	Bluefish	24	13		Norwalk Islands	Charles J. Toth	1979
	Blue Marlin	449	6		Atlantis Canyon	Jeffrey K. Eckert	2001
	Blue Shark	361	—		Ranger Wreck	Robert H. Oslen	1993
	<b>WORLD RECORD</b> Clearnose Skate	9	8	37"	Fort Nathan Hale	Anthony Carpentino	2017
	Conger Eel	7	4		Noank	Maria Annunziata	1987
	Cunner	3	4		Block Island Sound	Wesley E. Sargent	1998
	Hickory Shad	3	4		Niantic River, Niantic	Richard Kozlowski	2003
	Hogchoker	—	9	10.25"	West Haven	Albert Zuppe	2016
	Little Tunny	16	13	37"	Butterfish Hole	Vincent Deledda	2011
	Mako Shark	650	—		Block Island Sound	Gregory J. Erisoty	1987
	Northern Kingfish	2	10	19.5"	Silver Sands State Park	Christopher Shea	2016
	Oyster Toadfish	2	12	14"	Millstone Outflow	William Kondrasiewicz	2018
	Pollock	34	2		Block Island Sound	Joe DeCosta	2000
	Sandbar (Brown) Shark	118	7		Connecticut River, Old Saybrook	Bruce Kelly	1995
	Scup (Porgy)	5	4.8	21"	Montauk Harbor	Travis Kupchok	2019
	Sheepshead Porgy	10	11		Branford Reef	Clyde Turner	1998
	Smooth Dogfish	18	11	57"	New Haven Breakwall	Jennifer Zuppe	2017
	Spiny Dogfish	22	11	57.75"	Milford	Jennifer Zuppe	2018
	Squid	—	—	15.5" mantle	Stonington	Marc Pantalone	2019
	<b>WORLD RECORD</b> Striped Bass	81	15	54"	Outer Southwest Reef	Greg Myerson	2011
	Striped Searobin	4	3	20"	Housatonic River	Howard Wolowitz	2012
	Summer Flounder (Fluke)	14	13.76	31.5"	Fishers Island	Michael Maffucci	2019
	Thresher Shark	467	—		Montauk Point	Mark Hiller	2006
	<b>White Perch</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>14.5"</b>	<b>Short Beach</b>	<b>Harry B. Sheffield</b>	<b>2020</b>
	Winter Flounder	6	1		Millstone Point, Waterford	Tom Kobas	1999
	Weakfish	17	14		Fayerweather Island	June Andrejko	1986
	<b>Windowpane Flounder</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>12.75"</b>	<b>Long Sand Shoal</b>	<b>Alexander Welford</b>	<b>2020</b>
	Winter Skate	17	6		Watch Hill, R.I.	William F. Zanks	1995
	Yellowfin Tuna	210	7		Block Canyon	Charles J. Lobacz	1991
EXOTIC MARINE SPECIES (Rare Species)	Banded Rudderfish	1	5	13"	Milford	Israel Ruman	2018
	Black Drum	15	3		New Haven Breakwater	Howard D. LaFrance	2001
	Black Grouper	1	4	13.5"	Millstone Outflow, Waterford	Hugh Durham	2012
	Cobia	18	—		East Haven	Nicholas Carafeno	2008
	<b>Cownose Ray</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>12.48</b>	<b>57.25"</b>	<b>Sandy Point</b>	<b>Al Zuppe</b>	<b>2020</b>
	Grey Snapper	5	15	25"	Millstone Outflow	Nelson Carey	2016
	Gray Triggerfish	6	1.5	19"	Pine Island, Groton	Keith Mehmet	2016
	Jack Crevalle	3	7.5	18.8"	Millstone Outflow, Waterford	Hugh Durham	2014
	King Mackerel	7	2	33.5"	Old Saybrook	Doug Clark	2018
	Ladyfish	3	8	23"	Millstone Point, Waterford	Nelson Carey	2014
	Mahi Mahi (Dolphinfish)	47	2	60"	Fish Tales Canyon	John Dagon	2016
	Monkfish	42	—	40"	Southside of Fisher's Island	Craig Weagle	2016
	Porbeagle Shark	191	—	75"	Ryans' Horn	Austin Urban	2013
	Roughtail Stingray	86	15	88"	Millstone Outflow, Waterford	Kevin McCaffery	2014
	Scalloped Hammerhead Shark	235	—		Block Island Sound	Richard Bonaccorsi	1992
	Smooth Puffer	9	12		Six Mile Reef	Robert K. Mielke	2019
	Spanish Mackerel	6	5		Branford Beacon	Michael Audet	2003
	Swordfish	359	—		Fish Tales	Fred J. Malcarne	2004
	<b>Tilefish</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>47"</b>	<b>East Atlantis Canyon</b>	<b>Jarred Velardi</b>	<b>2020</b>
	Torpedo Ray	89	8		Misquamicut, R.I.	Chuck Adams	2008
	Wahoo	88	—		Fish Tales	Mike Matrishon	2005
	White Marlin	108	8		Block Canyon	Frederick Iasiello	1988
BLUE CRAB	Blue Crab	—	—	8.81"	Oyster River	Thomas Buonanni	2016



# State Record Marine Fish (Catch & Release)

Red type signifies a new record set in 2020.

CATEGORY	COMMON NAME	WEIGHT		LENGTH	LOCATION CAUGHT	ANGLER	YEAR CAUGHT
		lbs.	oz.				
STATE RECORD MARINE FISH	Atlantic Needlefish	—	—	34"	Mystic River	Zacery Martindale	2016
	Black Sea Bass	—	—	24"	Six Mile Reef	Evan Kamoen	2018
	Blackfish (Tautog)	13	9	27"	Indian Neck Point, Branford	Jack Martin	2012
	Bluefish	15	6	37"	Housatonic River	Shawn Lalond	2012
	Blue Shark	—	—	120"	Block Island Sound	Timothy E. Kilbride	2009
	Chub Mackerel	1	15	16.63"	Fishers Island	Caleb Rose	2019
	Clearnose Skate	—	—	35"	Clinton Harbor	Evan Kamoen	2018
	Little Tunny (False Albacore)	6	8	26.5"	Block Island Sound	Timothy E. Kilbride	2009
	Northern Puffer	—	—	10"	Hammonasset	Evan Kamoen	2017
	Oyster Toadfish	3	4	16"	Norwalk	Patrick DeVito	2014
	Pinfish	—	—	13"	Groton Long Point	Evan Kamoen	2019
	Scup (Porgy)	—	—	19.875"	New Haven Breakwater	Jennifer Zuppe	2020
	Smooth Dogfish	—	—	51"	New Haven Breakwall	Albert Zuppe	2016
	Spanish Mackerel	—	—	20.75"	Niantic	Evan Kamoen	2020
	Striped Bass	—	—	54"	Long Island Sound	Derek Williams	2017
	Summer Flounder	10	11	29"	Sara's Ledge	Sara Roman	2018
	Striped Sea Robin	—	—	20"	Long Island Sound	Alex Erdmann	2016
	Tautog	—	—	32.5"	Groton	Luke Wiggins	2020
	Weakfish	—	—	33.75"	West Haven Breakwall	Al Zuppe	2020
EXOTIC MARINE SPECIES (Rare Species)	Atlantic Stingray	14	4	58"	New Haven Breakwater	Larry E. Lainey	2010
	Cownose Ray	—	—	57.75"	Sandy Point	Al Zuppe	2020
	Gray Triggerfish	4	8	19.25"	Niantic Bay	Christopher Otis	2013
	Inshore Lizardfish	—	8	10"	Milford Point	Dean Vogel, Sr.	2011
	Scalloped Hammerhead Shark	—	—	120"	Butterfish Hole	Christian Urban	2013
	Smooth Puffer	—	—	23"	Six Mile Reef	Michael Parks	2018
	Snake Mackerel	—	—	28"	Block Canyon	Alex Erdmann	2019
	Tiger Shark	550	—	108"	Block Channel	Pauly Randazzo Jr.	2017

## MARINE DEFINITIONS

**CLOSED SEASON (SALTWATER)** The period of time during which no person shall take, possess or land a particular species taken by sportfishing methods, regardless of where taken. Any species taken to the contrary must be returned immediately, without avoidable injury, to the waters from which it was taken.

- Anglers cannot be in possession of fish legally taken in another state when on the waters or shores of Connecticut during a closed season for that species in Connecticut.

**DAILY CREEL LIMIT** The number of fish of a species or species group that can be retained by an individual angler during the period from 12:01 a.m. to midnight. Any species taken to the contrary must be returned immediately, without avoidable injury, to the waters from which it was taken.

**"CULLING" OR "HIGH-GRADING"** means discarding or returning a previously retained fish to the water in order to retain a more desirable fish. Any fish placed on a stringer, in a container, cooler, live well or similar device, or otherwise not immediately released to the water shall count against the daily creel limit. "Culling" or "High-Grading" is prohibited in the Marine District!

Please.....  
**DO NOT LITTER**

HELP KEEP YOUR FISHING ACCESS AREA CLEAN AND HEALTHY



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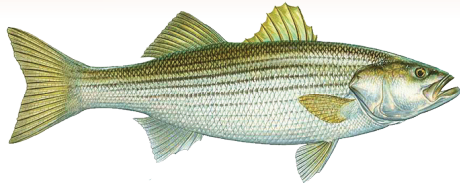
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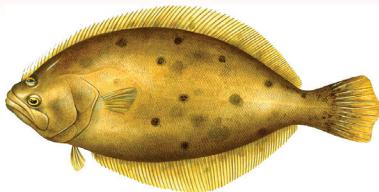
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# Connecticut Saltwater Fish

Striped Bass



Summer Flounder (Fluke)



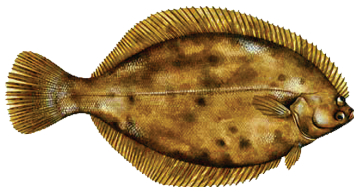
White Perch



Bluefish



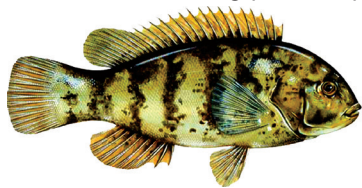
Winter Flounder



Hickory Shad



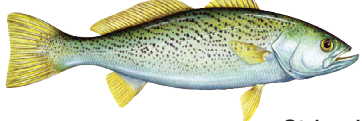
Tautog (Blackfish)



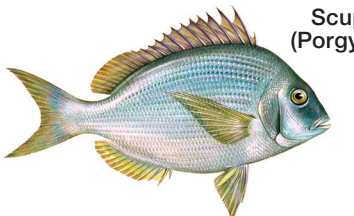
Atlantic Menhaden



Weakfish



Scup (Porgy)



Atlantic Bonito



Striped Sea Robin



Black Sea Bass



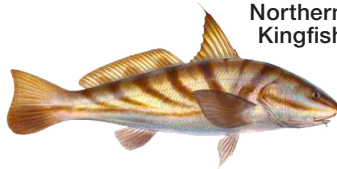
Little Tunny (False Albacore)



American Eel



Northern Kingfish



Smooth Dogfish



Inshore Lizardfish



White perch image © Joseph Tomelleri

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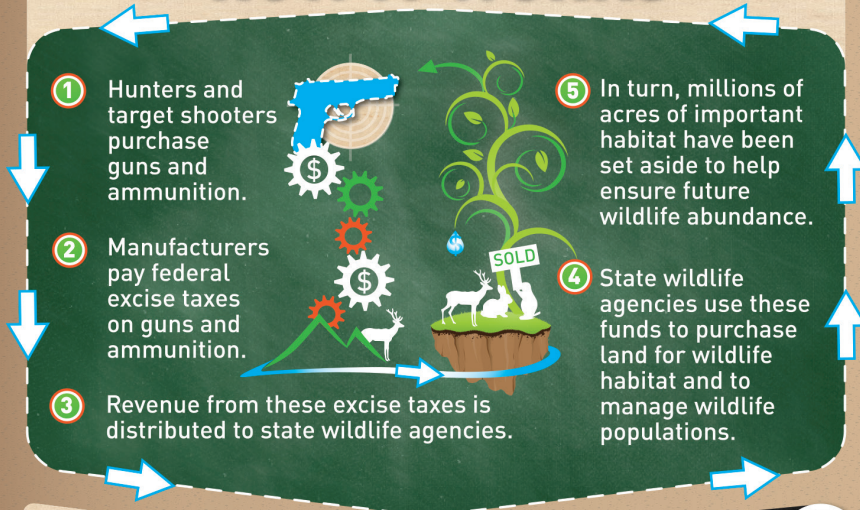
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# HOW WILDLIFE IS THRIVING BECAUSE OF GUNS & HUNTING

## HOW IT WORKS



This System Has Provided  
**MORE THAN \$12.5 Billion**  
For Conservation So Far



## Where the Money Goes

Buy, develop, maintain and operate wildlife management areas



Research projects focused on wildlife conservation



Hunter safety and education programs



Construction and maintenance of public target shooting ranges

## Quick History

- Early 1900s**  
As many wildlife species are dwindling in numbers or disappearing, firearms industry steps forward and asks Congress to redirect excise tax on sale of guns and ammo to help fund wildlife conservation.
- 1937**  
Congress passes and President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act into law.
- 1938 to today:**  
Revenue from this act has purchased millions of acres of prime habitat that is maintained by state wildlife agencies. These lands, where game and non-game species flourish, are purchased with sportsmen's dollars but used by all Americans.

Since the late 1930s, hunters, target shooters and the firearms industry have been the nation's **LARGEST** contributors to **conservation**, paying for programs that benefit America's wildlife and all who love the outdoors.

## THEN & NOW

White Tailed Deer Population		
1900	500,000	32,000,000 TODAY
Ducks / Waterfowl Population		
1901	FEW	44,000,000 TODAY
Rocky Mountain Elk		
1907	41,000	1,000,000 TODAY
Wild Turkeys		
1900	100,000	7,000,000 TODAY
Pronghorn Antelope		
50 YEARS AGO	12,000	1,100,000 TODAY

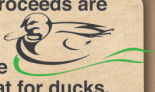
## OTHER WAYS SPORTSMEN CONTRIBUTE

Excise taxes combined with revenue from hunting and fishing license sales fund the majority of state wildlife agency budgets.



**\$81 Million**  
CONTRIBUTED ANNUALLY

Duck stamp proceeds are used by the government to buy or lease wetland habitat for ducks, geese and hundreds of non-game birds and animals.



## SOME HEROES OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL CONSERVATION MODEL IN THE WORLD ARE:



Theodore Roosevelt



Aldo Leopold



Key Pittman



Willis Robertson



THE FIREARMS INDUSTRY TRADE ASSOCIATION

NSSF.ORG





# 2021 Tide Table—Saybrook Point



Matt Carli.  
Oyster toadfish 2lbs 1.6oz, 13".

## HIGH TIDE PREDICTIONS BETWEEN 6:00 a.m. AND 7:00 p.m.

(Adjusted for daylight savings time) — 41.2833 N, 72.3500 W

○ FULL MOON ● NEW MOON

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
1	11:53 a	1:00 p	11:52 a	2:13 p	2:57 p	4:43 p	5:08 p	6:19 p	7:10 a	7:32 a	8:22 a	7:30 a
2	12:36 p	1:49 p	12:40 p	3:11 p	4:00 p	5:47 p	6:05 p	6:44 a	8:03 a	8:17 a	9:01 a	8:14 a
3	1:21 p	2:43 p	1:30 p	4:14 p	5:08 p	6:07 a	6:24 a	7:40 a	8:49 a	8:58 a	9:41 a	9:00 a
4	2:11 p	3:45 p	2:25 p	5:26 p	6:18 p	7:06 a	7:21 a	8:30 a	9:30 a	9:35 a	10:23 a ●	9:49 a ●
5	3:06 p	4:54 p	3:28 p	6:39 p	6:44 a	7:57 a	8:12 a	9:16 a	10:09 a	10:13 a	11:09 a	10:42 a
6	4:09 p	6:03 p	4:39 p	7:10 a	7:43 a	8:43 a	8:58 a	9:59 a	10:48 a ●	10:53 a ●	11:59 a	11:37 a
7	5:15 p	6:36 a	5:52 p	8:09 a	8:31 a	9:26 a	9:42 a	10:41 a	11:28 a	11:36 a	11:53 a	12:34 p
8	5:53 a	7:33 a	6:25 a	8:58 a	9:14 a	10:08 a	10:26 a	11:23 a ●	12:09 p	12:23 p	12:51 p	1:33 p
9	6:49 a	8:25 a	7:25 a	9:41 a	9:54 a	10:50 a	11:09 a ●	12:04 p	12:53 p	1:14 p	1:51 p	2:33 p
10	7:42 a	9:14 a	8:15 a	10:20 a	10:34 a	11:34 a ●	11:53 a	12:45 p	1:40 p	2:08 p	2:57 p	3:35 p
11	8:33 a	10:00 a ●	9:01 a	11:00 a ●	11:15 a ●	12:18 p	12:36 p	1:28 p	2:31 p	3:09 p	4:06 p	4:40 p
12	9:23 a	10:45 a	9:43 a	11:39 a	11:57 a	1:03 p	1:19 p	2:11 p	3:27 p	4:15 p	5:14 p	5:42 p
13	10:13 a ●	11:29 a	10:24 a ●	12:21 p	12:40 p	1:48 p	2:02 p	2:59 p	4:31 p	5:27 p	6:24 p	6:52 p
14	11:03 a	12:13 p	12:05 p	1:03 p	1:25 p	2:32 p	2:45 p	3:51 p	5:41 p	6:06 a	7:03 a	7:31 a
15	11:52 a	12:57 p	12:46 p	1:47 p	2:10 p	3:17 p	3:31 p	4:51 p	6:50 p	7:13 a	8:10 a	8:38 a
16	12:40 p	1:42 p	1:28 p	2:32 p	2:57 p	4:05 p	4:21 p	5:56 p	7:22 a	8:08 a	9:05 a	9:33 a
17	1:28 p	2:30 p	2:12 p	3:21 p	3:46 p	4:56 p	5:17 p	6:24 a	8:19 a	8:53 a	9:50 a	10:18 a
18	2:17 p	3:23 p	2:58 p	4:14 p	4:39 p	5:50 p	6:16 p	7:29 a	9:08 a	9:34 a	10:41 a	11:09 a
19	3:09 p	4:24 p	3:48 p	5:14 p	5:34 p	6:04 a	6:39 a	8:26 a	9:53 a	10:13 a	11:20 a	11:48 a
20	4:06 p	5:28 p	4:46 p	6:14 p	6:27 p	7:04 a	7:40 a	9:18 a	10:36 a ○	10:52 a ○	12:00 a	12:28 p
21	5:07 p	5:58 a	5:50 p	6:30 a	6:42 a	8:00 a	8:36 a	10:08 a	11:18 a	11:31 a	12:39 a	1:07 p
22	6:07 p	6:53 a	6:52 p	7:25 a	7:36 a	8:52 a	9:29 a	10:56 a ○	12:01 p	12:12 p	1:20 p	1:48 p
23	6:36 a	7:40 a	7:15 a	8:13 a	8:26 a	9:45 a	10:22 a ○	11:44 a	12:43 p	12:55 p	1:53 p	2:21 p
24	7:25 a	8:23 a	8:05 a	8:59 a	9:16 a	10:37 a ○	11:14 a	12:31 p	1:27 p	1:39 p	2:47 p	3:15 p
25	8:09 a	9:03 a	8:50 a	9:44 a	10:05 a	11:32 a	12:07 p	1:18 p	2:13 p	2:27 p	3:35 p	4:03 p
26	8:50 a	9:43 a	9:32 a	10:30 a ○	10:56 a ○	12:27 p	12:59 p	2:04 p	3:02 p	3:18 p	4:26 p	4:54 p
27	9:30 a	10:24 a ○	10:14 a	11:19 a	11:50 a	1:23 p	1:50 p	2:52 p	3:56 p	4:16 p	5:24 p	5:52 p
28	10:09 a ○	11:07 a	10:57 a ○	12:09 p	12:45 p	2:18 p	2:41 p	3:42 p	4:58 p	5:18 p	6:26 p	6:54 p
29	10:50 a	—	11:43 a	1:03 p	1:42 p	3:14 p	3:32 p	4:38 p	6:02 p	6:18 p	7:26 p	7:54 p
30	11:31 a	—	12:30 p	1:58 p	2:40 p	4:10 p	4:25 p	5:38 p	6:38 a	6:56 a	8:04 a	8:32 a
31	12:14 p	—	1:21 p	—	3:40 p	—	5:21 p	6:40 p	—	7:42 a	—	8:54 a

### TIDAL DIFFERENCES — Remember that weather conditions affect tidal range & current speeds, sometimes very strongly.

Stonington	Less 1 Hour, 43 Min.	Duck Island	Plus 7 Min.	Bridgeport	Plus 33 Min.
Noank	Less 1 Hour, 33 Min.	Madison	Plus 12 Min.	Greenwich	Plus 34 Min.
Norwich	Less 1 Hour, 25 Min.	Falkner Island	Plus 19 Min.	Stamford	Plus 38 Min.
New London	Less 1 Hour, 11 Min.	Branford Harbor	Plus 24 Min.	Cos Cob Harbor	Plus 38 Min.
Millstone Pt.	Less 1 Hour, 2 Min.	New Haven Harbor	Plus 25 Min.	South Norwalk	Plus 45 Min.
Niantic	Less 10 Min.	Milford Harbor	Plus 26 Min.	Housatonic River, Stratford	Plus 1 Hour.
Old Saybrook	See tide chart	Saugatuck River	Plus 31 Min.		

### CONNECTICUT RIVER

Essex	Plus 28 Min.	Portland	Plus 2 Hours, 40 Min.
East Haddam	Plus 1 Hour, 31 Min.	Hartford	Plus 4 Hours, 19 Min.





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