ATTENTION ANGLERS

2018 NJ Recreational Minimum Size, Possession Limits, & Seasons

- Fish are measured from the tip of the snout to tip of the tail (except Black Sea Bass and Sharks).
- Cleaning or filleting of fish with a minimum size limit while at sea is prohibited. See the Marine edition of the Fish & Wildlife Digest or the Fish & Wildlife website for exceptions.

Hard Clam 1.5 inches
Recreational Limit – 150 clams
No harvest on Sunday
Shellfish license required

Tautog 15 inches
4 fish Jan. 1 – Feb. 28
4 fish Apr. 1 – Apr. 30
1 fish Aug. 1 – Nov. 15
5 fish Nov. 16 – Dec. 31

Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass
1 fish at 28 inches to less than 43 inches
1 fish at 43 inches or greater
See Digest for Striped Bass Bonus Program

Summer Flounder (Fluke)
Del. Bay and Tributaries 3 Fish at 17 Inches
All Other Marine Waters 3 fish at 18 inches
See Digest for IBSP and DE Bay Regulations
Open Season: May 25 – Sept. 22

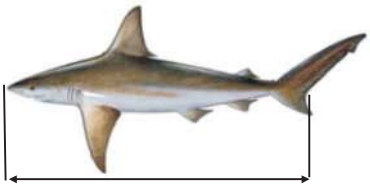
Winter Flounder
2 fish at 12 inches
Open Season: Mar. 1 – Dec. 31

Del. River and tributaries Calhoun St. Bridge, Trenton to Salem River and tributaries
Open Mar. 1 – Mar. 31 & June 1 – Dec. 31

Atlantic Ocean
0-3 miles from shore, no closed season
Greater than 3 miles from shore, closed

All other marine waters, open Mar. 1 – Dec. 31

Weakfish
1 fish at 13 inches
Open Season: Jan. 1 – Dec. 31

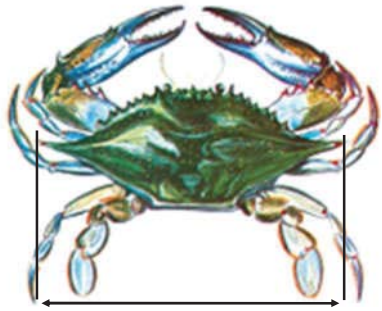


Shark
1 fish per vessel at 54 inches
Seasons: See Marine Digest

PROHIBITED SPECIES
See the Marine edition of the NJ Fish & Wildlife Digest or Fish & Wildlife's website for a complete list.

Other Species	Possession Limit	Total Length
American Eel	25	9"
Black Drum	3	16"
Cobia	1 per person, no more than 3 per vessel	40"
• Open Season: June 1 — Sept. 30		
Cod	NO LIMIT	21"
Haddock	NO LIMIT	18"
King Mackerel	3	23"
Pollock	NO LIMIT	19"
Red Drum	1	18-27"
River Herring	CLOSED	N/A
Scup (Porgy)	50	9"
• Open Season: Jan. 1 - Dec. 31		
Shad	6	NO LIMIT
• No more than 3 American shad in Del. Bay, River & tributaries		
• No American shad in all other waters		
American Lobster	6	3 3/8" to 5 1/4" Carapace Length
• LMA 4 Open Season: Jan. 1 - Apr. 29 & June 1 - Dec. 31		
• LMA 5 Open Season: Jan. 1 - Jan. 31 & Apr. 1 - Dec. 31		
Jonah Crab	50	4 3/4" Carapace Width

Black Sea Bass
10 fish at 12.5 inches May 15 – June 22
2 fish at 12.5 inches July 1 – August 31
10 fish at 12.5 inches Oct. 8—Oct. 31
15 fish at 13 inches Nov. 1—Dec. 31



Blue Crab
(measured point to point)
Peeler or Shedder — 3 inches
Soft —3½ inches
Hard — 4½ inches
Recreation Limit — One Bushel

Crab pot/Trot line Seasons:
Delaware Bay & tributaries
Apr. 6 — Dec. 4

All other waters
Mar. 15 — Nov. 30

Bluefish
15 fish; No Minimum Size
Open Season: Jan. 1 – Dec. 31

Register before fishing! It's free, easy, and required.
SaltwaterRegistry.nj.gov

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Fish and Wildlife
www.njfishandwildlife.com

5/14/2018