

# 2026



## **A Summary of Regulations and Definitions for Recreational Freshwater Fishing in Connecticut**

March 2026 (v2)



**Connecticut Department of Energy  
and Environmental Protection**

*Bureau of Natural Resources | Fisheries Division*

# A Summary of Regulations and Definitions for Recreational Freshwater Fishing in Connecticut

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**Purpose of this Document:** To provide a concise, easy-to-read, summary of the freshwater (inland) sport fishing regulations and definitions. Please note that laws and regulations may have changed since printing. Every effort has been made to ensure the information provided here is accurate. The official legal regulations may be found on the Connecticut Secretary of State's web page at <https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/>

We encourage anglers to use the [digital versions of the fishing guide](#), available on the Fisheries Division's website, as online content can be modified or updated immediately as required.

## Contact Us



Law Enforcement Dispatch 24/7:	860-424-3333
Freshwater Fishing Information:	860-424-3474
Saltwater Fishing Information:	860-434-6148
Boating Information:	860-434-8638
Fishing License Issues/Questions:	860-424-3105
Fish with CARE (Learn to Fish):	860-663-1656

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# A Message from the Director of the Fisheries Division

Fishing is a longstanding tradition, creating countless fine memories of our time spent with family or friends. If you are reading this, you may well be a passionate recreational angler with a bounty of your own unique memories culled from your time spent on our waters. Or you may be new to the piscatorial pursuits and in search of your own lifetime of memories. I am personally blessed with over 60 years of wonderful and diverse experiences fishing with friends and family, mostly here in Connecticut. We all seek the outdoors for different reasons, yet I can assure you that few other activities can match the stress-reducing therapeutic value of time spent on our waters while recreational fishing. Please get out and enjoy it!

Better yet, pay it forward by investing time in helping or mentoring others who have yet to experience and appreciate time outdoors with rod in hand. An easy way to do this is to invite them along on **Family Fishing Day, May 9, 2026, when no license is required**. In addition, anyone can obtain a free one-day license for use on June 21, and August 8, 2026. Your guidance, encouragement and sharing of your knowledge and passion for fishing with others will undoubtedly help sustain and grow the important legacy of fish and wildlife conservation here in Connecticut for generations to come.

Wishing you all tight lines.

Pete Aarrestad

P.S. Our "[First Catch Center Events](#)" run by our "Fish with CARE" program are a great way to get introduced to fishing or to hone your skills. Learn more here: [Fish with CARE](#)



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## Table of Contents

New for 2026.....	4
Two Simple Steps to Determine Regulations.....	4
Fishing License/Stamp Information.....	5
New to CT or are you new to fishing? We got your back!.....	6
Helpful Fishing Related QR Codes.....	7
Demarcation Line Between the Inland and Marine Districts.....	8
Default Species Regulations for Waters of the Inland District .....	9
Atlantic Salmon Open Season, Daily Creel Limit, Minimum Length, and Method of Taking.....	12
Lakes and Ponds.....	13
Lakes and Ponds with Public Access that Follow Default Regulations.....	16
Lakes/Ponds with Special Fishing Regulations .....	18
Rivers and Streams.....	38
Rivers and Streams that Follow Default Fishing Regulations.....	38
Rivers and Streams or Sections of Rivers and Streams with Special Fishing Regulations.....	42
Definitions and Regulatory Terms.....	54
State Record Freshwater Fish - Harvest.....	58
State Record Freshwater Fish - Catch and Release.....	59
Parts of a Fish.....	Back Cover

*Marine (saltwater) regulations will be printed separately in brochure format once finalized by the various agencies involved. This process is typically completed by March.*

## Trout (all species)

- **9-inch minimum length statewide** to keep/harvest (unless there is either a larger minimum length or if “catch and release” fishing is required).
- **3 New Trout Parks** (Mashamoquet Brook, Macedonia Brook, and Kettletown Brook).
- **Special regulation removed** (the default statewide regulation now applies)
  - East Branch Naugatuck River (previously Wild Trout Mgt. Area-Class 3)
  - Shunock Brook (previously Wild Trout Mgt Area-Class 3)
  - Eightmile River, East Haddam/Lyme (previously Sea-Run Stream)
  - Whitford Brook (previously Sea-Run Stream)
  - Mianus River-outside of the Trout Mgt. Area (previously Sea-Run Stream)
  - Crystal Lake, Ellington (previously Trout Management Lake)
- **22 New Wild Trout Management Areas - Class 1**
- **New protective thermal refuge in Highland Lake** at the mouth of Taylor Brook (no fishing July 1 to October 15).

## Black Bass (largemouth and smallmouth)

- New catch and release year-round in the Housatonic River from CT/MA state boundary to the Bleachery Dam in New Milford.

## Chain Pickerel

- **3 New Chain Pickerel Management Lakes** (Lake Wononskopomuc, East Twin Lake, West Twin Lake); 1 Chain Pickerel per day, 22-inch minimum length.

## Channel Catfish:

- New daily limit of 3 catfish in Allen Brook Pond (Wharton Pond) in Wharton Brook State Park.

## Definitions (see pages 54-57):

- **Established a definition** for *Artificial Lure/Lure* and for *Catch and Release Fishing*.
- **Modified the definition** for *Bait*, *Fish Hook/Hook*, *Fly*, *Fly Fishing*, *Daily Creel Limit*, and *Possession Limit*.
- **Removed the definition** of *Bobbing*

## Two Simple Steps To Determine Fishing Regulations

**Step 1:** Look at the default regulations for species pages 9 to 11.

**Step 2:** Check for additional regulations for a specific waterbody by looking at pages 18 to 37 (lakes or ponds) or pages 42 to 53 (rivers and streams).



**FISHBRAIN**

CT's fishing regulations are also available in the FREE version of the FishBrain App. The fishing regulations automatically update on your device wherever you are fishing to help you know the specific rules and regulations.

## Fishing License/Stamp Information

Fishing fuels conservation! 100% of your investment in a fishing license comes to DEEP's Bureau of Natural Resources. These funds are used to support programs that feed your passion. Examples include; trout rearing and stocking, purchase and stocking of Northern Pike, Walleye, and Channel Catfish, land acquisition for conservation and fishing access, maintenance of boat ramps, restoration of migratory fish species, monitoring of resident fish populations (marine and freshwater), and education. Thank you for your continued support.

Fishing licenses are:

- Required for all persons age 16 and older,
- Issued on a calendar year basis and expire on December 31st,
- Can be purchased on-line 24/7 at <https://portal.ct.gov/CTOutdoorLicenses>,
- Discounted by 50% for Connecticut residents who are age 16 or 17,
- Free for Connecticut residents age 65 or older.

The [Trout and Salmon Stamp](#) is required for all persons age 16 and older when:

- A. Taking (keeping any trout or salmon)
- B. Fishing in waters designated as a:
  - Trout Management Area (Rivers)
  - Trout Park
  - Wild Trout Management Area Class 1, 2, or 3
  - Atlantic Salmon Management Area



Scan for more info about the Trout and Salmon Stamp  
<https://bitly.cx/jwjE>

Licenses or stamps are available online anytime via <https://portal.ct.gov/CTOutdoorLicenses> or can be purchased at most bait and tackle shops, town clerk offices, or DEEP field offices. Please note that while the table below includes some of the most popular license options, other licenses, including combination hunting/fishing licenses, are available.

License/Stamp Name	Fee	Eligible for/Notes
All Waters	\$16; \$32; \$63	CT age 16/17; CT age 18-64; Nonresident (e.g. resident of another state or country)
Inland Waters Only	\$14; \$28; \$55	CT age 16/17; CT age 18-64; Nonresident
Trout and Salmon Stamp	\$3; \$5; \$5	CT age 16/17; CT age 18 and over; Nonresident
Marine Waters Only	\$5; \$10; \$15	CT age 16/17; CT age 18-64; Nonresident
3 Day Inland	\$22	Available to nonresidents only
3 Day Marine	\$8	Available to nonresidents only
Age 65 Inland Age 65 Marine	Free	CT resident age 65 or older only. Renew annually <a href="#">online</a> , at participating town halls, or at DEEP offices.
Blind or Intellectual Disability (CT resident only).	Free	Issuance of a free license to the blind or intellectually disabled requires proof of disability in the form of a certificate provided by any person licensed to practice medicine in this state. If this is your first time requesting this license, please contact DEEP's Licensing and Revenue at (860) 424-3105 for documentation submission instructions.
Physical Disability (Loss of one or more limbs, permanent loss of the use of one or more limbs).	Free	A person who has loss of one or more limbs or has permanently lost the use of one or more limbs may be issued a fishing or hunting license free-of-charge (permits and stamps not included). Qualified persons are eligible for this free license if their state provides the same privilege to Connecticut residents. Verification of the disability, signed by a licensed physician, must be presented. These licenses are available at DEEP's Licensing and Revenue office, along with participating town clerk offices.

## New to CT or are you new to fishing? We got your back!

Getting started with a new hobby or activity is often a barrier to getting started. Getting started in fishing can seem daunting, however the Fisheries Division is here to assist, support, and encourage you in your journey! So cast a line and get hooked on fishing.

### Try Fishing for FREE - 2026 Dates

**Family Fishing Day:** No fishing license is required on May 9, 2026.

**Free Fishing License Days:** Although the fee for a fishing license is waived, participants still need to obtain their fishing license [online](#) starting 3 weeks prior to each date; June 21, 2026 and August 8, 2026.

**Fishing Classes/Events:** Learn the basic skills and info to get started with our online course. Then, come join us at a waterbody near you to cast a line (we will help you master the technique).

**Where to Fish:** CT has something for everyone when it comes to fishing. Whether your preference is trout, bass, catfish, panfish, or whatever bites there is a place for you.

### Great for new/beginners to get your feet wet

**Trout Parks** - frequent stocking, high catch rates, easy access, nearby amenities make these small waterbodies in state or municipal parks ideal for beginners.

**Community Fishing Waters** - stocked with trout and catfish these waters are convenient to many, have easy access, nearby amenities, and are great for beginners.

### Opportunities to expand your skill and experience

#### **Bass Management Lakes (BML)-**

These waters support quality fishing for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, or both. Most are best accessed by watercraft, however some do have shore based access.

**Walleye Lakes** - Stocked with yearling fish each fall, these waters provide an opportunity to catch a very popular (and tasty) game fish. This fishery is very popular during the winter when there is safe ice.

**Northern Pike** - Stocked with yearling fish each spring, these waters provide an opportunity to catch one of the largest game fish in North America. This fishery is very popular during the winter when there is safe ice.

#### **Trout Management Areas (TMA)-**

Sections of popular rivers and streams where wading can take your mind off of daily stresses. Oh, and you have a great chance to catch a trout. Some TMAs are catch and release only, some have sections for fly-fishing only, which give you plenty of room to cast.

#### **Wild Trout Management Areas**

**(WTMA)-** fishing in one of these can be technical as many are small streams or brooks. Catch and release using a fly or lure is required year-round, which protects these truly beautiful and "wild" trout.

**Panfish** - who doesn't love a good fish fry? Almost every lake/pond has a bumper crop of panfish like Bluegill, Black Crappie, Yellow Perch, and/or Brown Bullhead. Perfect of all fishing levels!

# Helpful Fishing Related QR Codes

Point the camera on your smart phone at the code to open the web page for the topic of interest.

## Interactive Maps: Information on where to fish and/or stocking updates

Lake and Pond Fishing Locations  
<https://bitly.cx/UUaUc>



Freshwater Fish Community  
<https://bitly.cx/tBhLP>



Trout Stocking Map  
<http://bitly.ws/yyNM>



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## Fishing Classes/Events/Tips: Information on how to fish or to increase your skill

DEEP - Learn to Fish Events  
<http://bitly.ws/yyNZ>



CT DEEP's  
Fishin' Tips Newsletter  
<https://bitly.cx/K3grp>



DEEP YouTube Channel  
<http://bitly.ws/yyPf>



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## Eating Fish/Trophy Fish/Species Profiles

Can I Eat Fish?  
<http://bitly.ws/yB78>



Submit Catch for DEEP Recognition  
<http://bitly.ws/BJAz>



Freshwater Fish of CT  
<http://bitly.ws/yB72>



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## Get your license/Trout and Salmon Stamp/Aquatic Invasive Species Stamp

Purchase your License  
<http://bitly.ws/yyPn>



Trout and Salmon Stamp  
FAQs  
<https://bitly.cx/jwjE>



Aquatic Invasive Species Stamp  
FAQs  
<https://bitly.cx/LOl4y>



## Contact the Fisheries Division

Phone: 860-424-FISH (3474)

Email: [DEEP.Inland.fisheries@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.Inland.fisheries@ct.gov)

## Demarcation Line Between the Inland and Marine Districts

An “All Waters” or “Inland Waters Only” fishing license is required upstream of the indicated landmarks while an “All Waters” or “Marine Waters Only” fishing license is required downstream. The demarcation line is the first bridge upstream from the mouth of the waterbody unless specified here. The Demarcation Line info is available online [here](#).

Sorted A to Z by waterbody name.

Waterbody, Town(s)	Demarcation Line
Alewife Cove, New London/ Waterford	Entirely in marine district
Back River, Groton	Entirely in marine district
Beebe Cove, Groton	Entirely in marine district
Blackhall River, Old Lyme	Route 156
Branford River, Branford	Montowese Street
Bride Brook, East Lyme	First railroad crossing
Bruces Brook, Bridgeport/Stratford	Stratford Avenue
Byram River, Greenwich	First railroad crossing
Clinton River, Clinton (Indian River)	Route 1
Connecticut River, Old Lyme/Old Saybrook	Interstate 95 bridge
Cove River, West Haven	Route 122
Duck River, Old Lyme	Entirely in marine district
East Creek, Guilford	The gates at Guilford dock
East River, Guilford/Madison	Route 1
Farm River, East Haven	Route 142
Five Mile River, Darien/Norwalk	Route 136
Four Mile River, East Lyme/Old Lyme	First railroad crossing
Goodwives River, Darien	Entirely in marine district
Graniteville Brook, Waterford	First railroad crossing
Hammonasset River, Clinton/ Madison	Route 1
Hammonds Cove, Waterford	Entirely in marine district
Horse Neck Brook, Greenwich	Junction with harbor
Housatonic River, Milford/Stratford.	Merritt Parkway
Indian Harbor, Greenwich	First railroad crossing
Indian River, Milford	Route 162
Jordan Cove, Waterford	First railroad crossing
Lieutenant River, Old Lyme	Route 156

Waterbody	Demarcation Line
Menunketesuck River, Westbrook.	500 ft. north of Route 1
Mianus River, Greenwich.	Dam north of Boston Post Road
Mile Creek, Old Lyme.	Entirely in marine district
Mill River, Fairfield.	Dam at Harbor Road
Mill River, New Haven.	Tide gates at State Street
Muddy Brook, Westport.	Route 136
Mumford Cove, Groton.	Entirely in marine district
Mystic River, Stonington/Groton.	500 ft. north of Route 1
Neck River, Madison	Route 1
Negro Brook, Stratford	Route 110
Noroton River, Darien/Stamford	Boston Post Road
Norwalk River, Norwalk	Wall Street
Oyster River, Milford	Route 122
Oyster River, Old Saybrook	Route 1
Palmer's Cove, Groton	Entirely in marine district
Pattagansett Cove, East Lyme	First railroad crossing
Patchogue River, Westport	Route 1
Pawcatuck River, Stonington	500 ft. north of Route 1
Pequonnock River, Bridgeport	North Avenue
Pequotsepos Cove, Stonington	500 ft. north of Route 1
Poquonnock River, Groton	500 ft. north of Route 1
Pumpkin Ground Brook, Stratford	Route 110
Quiambaug Cove, Stonington	500 ft. north of Route 1
Quinnipiac River, New Haven	Route 17
Rippowam River, Stamford	First railroad crossing
Rooster River, Bridgeport	North Avenue
Sasco Brook, Westport	Buckleys Mill Dam above Route 1
Saugatuck River, Westport	Kings Highway
Shaws Cove, New London	Entirely in marine district
Stonington Harbor, Lambert Cove and Quana duck Cove, Stonington	500 ft. north of Route 1
Stony Brook, Westport	Riverside Avenue
Thames River, Groton/New London	500 ft. north of Route 1
Three Mile River, Old Lyme	First railroad crossing
Tokeneke Brook, Darien	Old Farm Road
Wepawaug River, Milford	Route 162
Wequetequock River, Stonington	500 ft. North of Route 1A
West River, Guilford	Route 146
West River, West Haven	Tide gates at Orange Avenue
Winthrop Cove, New London	Entirely in marine district

# Default Species Regulations for Waters of the Inland District

The following regulations are in effect for all waters without a special regulation. For waterbody-specific fishing regulations, please review the lakes and ponds section (pages 18 to 37) or the rivers and streams section (pages 42 to 53). Please note that unless otherwise listed here, Connecticut's [regulations for marine species](#) apply for any marine species caught in the inland district.

## Alewife/Blueback Herring



**Min. Length:** None  
**Daily Limit:** 25\*  
**Methods:** Angling or Scoop net  
**Season:** Varies\*\*

**\*The taking of migratory (anadromous) alewife and blueback herring from all CT waters is currently prohibited.** Landlocked Alewife may only be taken from: *Amos Lake, Ball Pond, Beach Pond, Candlewood Lake, Crystal Lake (Ellington), Highland Lake, MT Tom Pond, Quassapaug Lake, Quonnipaug Lake, Squantz Pond, Uncas Lake, and Waramaug Lake.*

\*\* Angling = Year Round; Scoop Net = April 1 to June 15

## American Eel



**Min. Length:** 9 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 25  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing, Spearing, Bow and Arrow\*  
**Season:** Year-round

\*Spearing and bow and arrow use prohibited in streams or stream sections stocked with trout. Spearing prohibited in all lakes and ponds. The taking of elver eel, glass eel, and silver eel is prohibited.

## American Shad



**Min. Length:** None  
**Daily Limit:** 6\*  
**Methods:** Angling  
**Season:** Year-round

\*Harvesting American Shad is only allowed in the Connecticut River and its tributaries. Daily limit is in aggregate with Hickory Shad.

## Atlantic Salmon\*



Please refer to the [Commissioner's Declaration page](#) (QR code above)

**Lakes/Ponds Stocked By DEEP:**  
**Min. Length:** None  
**Daily Limit:** 1\*  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing  
**Season:** Year-round\*

**Naugatuck River, Shetucket River, Housatonic River (Derby Dam to Merritt Parkway Bridge)**  
**Min. Length:** None  
**Daily Limit:** 1\*  
**Methods:** Angling\*  
**Season:** Year-round\*

\*See page 10 for a summary of the [Commissioner's Declaration](#) describing daily limits, methods, and seasons.

## Bait Species

**Min. Length:** None  
**Daily Limit:** None

**Methods:** Bait Traps, Bait Seines, Cast Net, Umbrella Nets, Angling, Ice Fishing, Hand (**see the definition section for rules and specifications**).  
**Season:** Year-round

Bait may be taken by sport fishermen for personal use (a recreational fishing license is required). A commercial bait dealer license is required to collect bait to sell. Fish that are legally acquired may be used as bait except for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Chain Pickerel, Northern Pike, all trout species, all salmon species, Carp and Goldfish. Legal bait species include; Common Shiner, Golden Shiner, Fallfish, Creek Chub, Spottail Shiner, Blacknose Dace, Longnose Dace, Pearl Dace, Bluntnose Minnow, Fathead Minnow, Cutlips Minnow, Creek Chub Sucker, White Sucker, killifish, Mummichog, Atlantic and Tidewater Silversides, Sand Lance, frogs (except northern leopard frog), crayfish (except rusty crayfish), perch bugs, hellgrammites and mayfly nymphs. **Invasive species are not legal to use for bait.**

**Black Bass  
(Largemouth and Smallmouth)**



**Min. Length:**  
Lakes/Ponds/CT River: 12 inches  
Rivers/Streams: None  
**Daily Limit:** 6\*  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing  
**Season:** Year-round

\*In aggregate. Regulations for minimum length and daily limit are different in Bass Management Lakes and the Housatonic River Bass Management Area.

**Bowfin, Lamprey, Tench, Sucker**



**Min. Length:** None  
**Daily Limit:** None  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing, Spearing, Bow and Arrow\*  
**Season:** Year-round

\*Spearing and bow and arrow use prohibited in streams or stream sections stocked with trout. Spearing prohibited in all lakes and ponds.

**Bullhead (Brown and Yellow)**



**Min. Length:** None  
**Daily Limit:** None  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing, Hand  
**Season:** Year-round

**Burbot**

The taking of Burbot is prohibited.

**Catfish (Channel and White)**



**Min. Length:** None  
**Daily Limit:** 6\*  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing, Hand  
**Season:** Year-round

\*Daily limit is in aggregate. The daily creel limit is 3 catfish in Community Fishing Waters.

**Chain Pickerel**



**Min. Length:**  
Lakes/Ponds: 15 inches  
Rivers/Streams: None  
**Daily Limit:**  
Lakes/Ponds 6  
Rivers/Streams None  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing  
**Season:** Year-round

Regulations for minimum length and daily limit are different in Chain Pickerel Management Lakes.

**Common Carp (includes mirror, leather, ghost, and fantail variations)**



**Min. Length:** None  
**Daily Limit:** 5, only 1 may be greater than 30 inches\*  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing, Spearing, Bow and Arrow\*\*  
**Season:** Year-round

\*Different daily creel and size regulations apply for bow and arrow fishing in some waters and in Trophy Carp Waters.

\*\*Spearing and Bow and Arrow use prohibited in stream sections stocked with trout. Spearing prohibited in all lakes and ponds.

**Kokanee Salmon**



**Min. Length:** None  
**Daily Limit:** 5\*  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing  
**Season:** 6:00 AM on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February.\*

\*Catch and Release fishing only from March 1 until 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.

**Northern Pike and Tiger Muskie**



**Min. Length:** 26 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 2  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing  
**Season:** Year-round\*

\*Bantam Lake and Little Pond have special rules.

**Panfish (Yellow Perch, Calico Bass/Black Crappie, Rock Bass, Pumpkinseed, Bluegill)**



**Min. Length:** None  
**Daily Limit:** None  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing  
**Season:** Year-round

### Smelt



**Min. Length:** None  
**Daily Limit:** 50\*  
**Methods:** Angling  
**Season:** Year-round

\*Taking of smelt from rivers/streams is prohibited.

### Striped Bass



**Slot Length:** 28-31 inches\*  
**Daily Limit:** 1  
**Methods:** Angling  
**Season:** Year-round

Regulations for striped bass are likely to change and as such anglers should check the DEEP [saltwater species regulation web page](https://portal.ct.gov/deep/saltwater-species-regulation-web-page) for current regulations.

\*Any Striped Bass less than 28 inches or greater than or equal to 31 inches (measured from the snout to the tip of the tail) must be immediately released.

No spearing or gaffing. However, Striped Bass that are legally taken by spearing in another state may be landed in CT.

An in-line circle hook is required when fishing for Striped Bass and using bait (whole, cut, or live natural bait). This does not apply when fishing with artificial lures tipped with bait (tube and worm, bucktail jig, etc.)

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 otherwise rendered unidentifiable as a Striped Bass or unable to be measured.

### Sturgeon

The taking of Sturgeon is prohibited.

### Trout

(*Brook, Brown, Rainbow, Tiger, Lake*)



**Min. Length:** 9 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 5  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing  
**Season:** Year-round\*

\*Catch and Release only from March 1 until 6:00am on the second Saturday of April.

A [Trout and Salmon Stamp](#) is required to keep trout or salmon.

Different regulations apply in many waters including Trout management Areas, Trout Management Lakes, Trophy Trout Areas, Trout Parks, Wild Trout Management Areas, Sea-Run Trout Streams, Tidal Waters and Tributaries, and in the Marine District.

### White Perch



**Min. Length:** None\*  
**Daily Limit:** None\*  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice Fishing  
**Season:** Year-round

\*In the Marine District the minimum length is 7 inches and the daily limit is 30 fish.

### Walleye



**Min. Length:** 18 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 2  
**Methods:** Angling, Ice fishing  
**Season:** Year-round



## Is My Fish Safe to Eat?



The CT Department of Public Health (DPH) issues an annual fish consumption advisory each year to help the public make an informed decision about eating fish from Connecticut waters. The advice can be based on the type of fish or by waterbody. The advice is also based on if a person is in the "High Risk" or "Low Risk" group. To see the current advisory in multiple languages, please visit <https://portal.ct.gov/fish> or call 860-458-3474 (FISH).

Can I Eat Fish?  
<http://bitly.ws/yB78>



# Atlantic Salmon Open Season, Daily Creel Limit, Minimum Length, And Method Of Taking



**The taking of Atlantic Salmon is prohibited in the State of Connecticut except for the following:** 1. That portion of the Naugatuck River extending from the confluence of the East and West Branches of the Naugatuck River (Torrington) downstream to its confluence with the Housatonic River, 2. That portion of the Housatonic River extending from the Derby Dam (Derby-Shelton) downstream to its confluence with Long Island Sound (Stratford-Milford), 3. That portion of the Shetucket River extending from the Scotland Dam (Windham) downstream to the Water Street Bridge (Norwich), 4. Crystal Lake (Ellington, Stafford), and 5. Mount Tom Pond (Litchfield, Morris, Washington).

Under the authority of Section 26-112 of the Connecticut General Statutes and Section 26-112-45(c) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the [Commissioner of DEEP](#) hereby declares open fishing season, daily creel limit, minimum length and legal method for taking Atlantic Salmon in the following stream sections and lakes:

Please scan the QR code or see this link to the [Commissioner's Declaration page](#)



Regulation	Naugatuck River, Shetucket River, Housatonic River*	Crystal Lake (Ellington) and MT Tom Pond
Daily Creel Limit	0 fish from September 1 until December 15 (catch and release) 1 fish from December 16 until August 31	0 fish from March 1 until 6:00 am April 11 (catch and release) 1 fish from 6:00 am April 11 until the last day of February
Minimum Length	None	None
Legal Method*	Angling - Required use of a single fly or an artificial lure, which must have a single free-swinging hook. Additional weight may not be added to the line. A bubble float attached to the line or leader to adjust buoyancy shall not be considered additional weight.	Angling or ice fishing no special restrictions on type of tackle/bait that can be used.

\*NOTE: In [Atlantic Salmon Management Areas](#) from September 1 to March 31, regardless of species fished for, gear is limited to a single fly or an artificial lure with a single free-swinging hook. A Trout and Salmon Stamp is required to fish within an Atlantic Salmon Management Area.

**The boundaries for the Atlantic Salmon Management Areas are:**

**Naugatuck River- upper section:** From the Route 118 crossing downstream to the Thomaston US Army Corps Dam.

**Naugatuck River- lower section:** From the Prospect Street Bridge in Naugatuck downstream to the Route 42 crossing in Beacon Falls.

**Shetucket River:** From the Scotland Dam downstream to the Occum Dam.

# Lakes and Ponds

## Summary of Fisheries Management Categories and Associated Waters

This section of the fishing guide details waters that have special fishing regulations, access limitations, or boating rules. The Fisheries Division makes use of a variety of tools to optimize fishing for some of the more popular game fish species. These tools (regulations) can be daily creel limits, minimum or maximum size limits, or limits on the type of gear that can be used. These regulations can, and do, vary by waterbody.

Management Category and Regulation(s)	Lakes/Ponds
<b><u>Bass Management Lakes</u></b>	
<p><b>12-16 inch protective slot:</b> All bass that are greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released without avoidable harm.</p> <p>Daily limit of 6 bass, only 2 bass may be greater than or equal to 16 inches.</p>	<p>Bashan Lake, Billings Lake, Black Pond (Meriden/Middlefield), Bolton Lakes, Colebrook River Lake, Coventry Lake, Halls Pond, Lake Chamberlain, Lake Hayward, Lake Kenosia, Maltby Lakes, Mamasasco Lake, Mansfield Hollow Reservoir, Mashapaug Lake, Pickerel Lake, West Side Pond, Lake Wononskopomuc</p>
<p><b>12-18 inch protective slot:</b> All bass that are greater than 12 inches and less than 18 inches must be released without avoidable harm.</p> <p>Daily limit of 6 bass, only one may be greater than or equal to 18 inches.</p>	<p>Amos Lake, Moodus Reservoir, Mudge Pond, Pattagansett Lake</p>
<p><b>16-inch minimum length.</b> Daily limit of 2 bass.</p>	<p>Gardner Lake, Highland Lake, Lake Housatonic, Mohegan Park Pond, Quinebaug Lake, Taftville Reservoir, Wyassup Lake</p>
<p><b>18-inch minimum length.</b> Daily limit of 1 bass.</p>	<p>Lake Saltonstall</p>
<b><u>Trout Management Lakes (TML)</u></b>	
<p><b>Standard TML Regulation:</b> Five trout per day from 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February.</p> <p>One fish per day from March 1 until 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April. 16-inch minimum length. A trout and salmon stamp is required to keep trout or salmon.</p>	<p>Amos Lake, Candlewood Lake, Long Pond, Quonnipaug Lake, Rogers Lake, Squantz Pond, West Hill Pond</p>
<p><b>12-16 inch protective slot:</b> All trout that are greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released without avoidable harm.</p> <p>Five trout per day from 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February only 1 of which may be greater than 16 inches.</p> <p>One trout per day from March 1 until 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April. A trout and salmon stamp is required to keep trout or salmon.</p>	<p>Highland Lake - note that from July 1 to October 15 there is no fishing within 100 feet of signs posted by the DEEP at or near the mouth of Taylor Brook.</p>
<p><b>Brook Trout Lakes:</b> Five trout per day from 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February. Only 1 of which may be a Brook Trout that is greater than 14 inches.</p> <p>One trout per day from March 1 until 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April. Minimum length of 14 inches. A trout and salmon stamp is required to keep trout or salmon.</p>	<p>Black Pond (Woodstock) and Mohawk Pond</p>

Management Category and Regulation(s)	Lakes/Ponds
<p><b>Trophy Brown Trout:</b> Five trout per day from 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February. Not more than 1 of which may be a Brown Trout. The minimum length for Brown Trout is 22 inches.</p> <p>One trout per day from March 1 until 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April. Minimum length 22 inches.</p> <p>Two device limit in aggregate when ice fishing (tips ups, jigging rods, lines, etc.).</p> <p>A trout and salmon stamp is required to keep trout or salmon.</p>	<p>East Twin Lake and Lake Wononskopomuc</p>

### Other Managed Waters

<p><b>Trout Parks:</b> Daily limit of 2 trout, Harvest is allowed from 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February. Catch and release only March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April. A Trout and Salmon Stamp is required to fish here regardless if harvesting or releasing your catch.</p>	<p>Allen Brook Pond (Wharton Pond), Black Rock Pond, Day Pond, Great Hollow Pond, McGovern Pond, Mohegan Park Pond, Pasture Pond, Schreeder Pond, Southford Falls Pond, Stratton Brook Park Pond, Valley Falls Park Pond,</p>
<p><b>Community Fishing Waters:</b> <i>Channel Catfish:</i> Daily limit of 3, no minimum size, harvest allowed year-round. <i>Trout:</i> Daily limit 5. Harvest is allowed from 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February. Catch and release only March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April. A trout and salmon stamp is required to keep trout or salmon.</p>	<p>Allen Brook Pond (Wharton Pond), Beaver Park Pond, Birge Pond, Bunnells Pond, Center Springs Park Pond, Colony Pond, Crescent Lake, Freshwater Pond, Keney Park Pond, Lakewood Lake, Mirror Lake, Mohegan Park Pond, Pickett's Pond, Rogers Park Pond, Rowan's Pond, Stanley Quarter Park Pond, Upper Fulton Park Pond, and Lake Wintergreen</p>
<p><b>Northern Pike:</b> May 1 to November 30 the daily creel limit is 2, minimum length is 26 inches. December 1 to the last day of February the daily creel limit is 1, minimum length is 36 inches. March 1 to April 30 Northern Pike fishing is closed.</p>	<p>Bantam Lake and Little Pond</p>
<p><b>Northern Pike:</b> Minimum length 24 inches. Daily limit of 2 pike.</p>	<p>Connecticut River</p>
<p><b>Northern Pike and Tiger Muskie:</b> Daily limit of 1 fish in aggregate (either species but not both). Minimum length 38 inches.</p>	<p>Lake Lillinonah</p>
<p><b>Chain Pickerel Management Lakes:</b> Minimum length 22 inches, daily creel limit of 1 chain pickerel.</p>	<p>East Twin Lake, West Twin Lake, Lake Wononskopomuc</p>
<p><b>Trophy Common Carp Waters:</b> Daily limit of 1 carp and <b>MAXIMUM</b> size limit of 26 inches.</p>	<p>Batterson Park Pond and Squantz Pond.</p>
<p><b>Common Carp Enhanced Bow and Arrow Fishing Waters:</b> The daily creel limit is 12 carp with not more than 3 of the 12 carp greater than 30 inches.</p>	<p>West Thompson Lake</p>
<p><b>Boundary Waters:</b> Some portion of the waterbody is in two states. The regulations may follow CT, MA, RI, NY, or may be a combination of the two states. A trout and salmon stamp is required to keep trout or salmon.</p>	<p><b>MA:</b> Breakneck Pond, Colebrook River Lake, Congamond Lakes, Hamilton Reservoir, Muddy Pond, Perry Pond  <b>NY:</b> Indian Pond  <b>RI:</b> Beach Pond, Hazard Pond, Killingly Pond, Peck Pond</p>
<p><b>Children's Fishing Area:</b> Fishing limited to children under the age of 16.</p>	<p>Factory Pond (Salisbury), Gould Manor Pond, Helen Keller Pond, Kaatz Pond, Mill Pond (Newington), Sochrin Pond</p>

The icons listed below are used within the Lake and Pond section to help identify waters with specific amenities that may be appropriate for your fishing trip.

Amenity Icons	
Icon	Description
	Shore-based fishing opportunity
	Accessible to people with a variety of abilities
	<a href="#">A Trout and Salmon Stamp</a> is required to fish here regardless if harvesting or not. A trout and salmon stamp is required to harvest (keep) trout or salmon from any/all public waters.
	Launch suitable for a trailered watercraft or car-top watercraft
	Launch suitable for car-top watercraft only
	Area is adequate for picnicking
	Child-friendly fishing
	Camping on-site or nearby
	<a href="#">Fishing line recycling</a> container on site
	Stocked with adult trout, adult catfish, or both
	The Department of Public Health has issued a "Do Not Eat" consumption advisory for one or more types of fish in this waterbody. Please visit the <a href="#">Fish Consumption Advisory webpage</a> for details.

The abbreviations listed below are used within the Lakes and Ponds section to indicate fish that are likely present.

Fish Species Abbreviation Codes			
AS	Atlantic Salmon	RA	Smelt
BB	Brown Bullhead	S	Sunfish
CA	Common Carp	SM	Smallmouth Bass
CB	Calico Bass	T	Trout
CC	Channel Catfish	TM	Tiger Muskie
CP	Chain Pickerel	WA	Walleye
K	Kokanee Salmon	WC	White Catfish
LM	Largemouth Bass	WP	White Perch
NP	Northern Pike	YP	Yellow Perch

## Help Prevent The Spread



CT has a number of aquatic invasive species, like Hydrilla, Milfoil, Curly Leaf Pond Weed, Zebra Mussels, Rock Snot, and others. These species are easily transported to new waterbodies by hitch-hiking on watercraft, trailers, and/or waders.

Please be sure to **CLEAN, DRAIN, AND DRY** your equipment after leaving every waterbody. A bit of time invested can help prevent establishment of invasive species into new waters. Failure to properly remove and dispose of any vegetation or invasive species may result in a \$95 fine per violation.

## Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Stamp

Please visit the [AIS stamp web page](#) for complete details.

To comply with the AIS Stamp law, boaters have two options:

**1. Individual AIS Stamp (\$7.00).** The Individual AIS Stamp is assigned to the individual purchasing the stamp, and it allows that individual to operate in compliance. The proof of purchase is displayed on that individual's Sportsmen Conservation License as a privilege like a hunting or fishing license.

**2. Vessel AIS Decal (\$25.00).** The Vessel AIS Decal is assigned to a particular vessel, and it allows anyone operating that vessel to operate in compliance. The proof of purchase is a decal that must be affixed to the vessel. The Vessel AIS Decal also provides an Individual AIS Stamp for the purchaser which will be displayed on that individual's Sportsmen Conservation License as a privilege like a hunting or fishing license.

Anyone operating a vessel without an AIS stamp or decal will be fined \$103.

## Lakes/Ponds with Public Access that Follow Statewide Default Regulations

This section of the fishing guide provides information about fishing and boating regulations for many lakes and ponds with public access. There are likely additional waters located in municipal parks, on land trust property, or other properties accessible to the public that are not listed here. Please be sure to note any signage on site indicating allowable use, access, or other rules.

**A [Trout and Salmon Stamp](#) is required to keep trout or salmon.**

Waterbody									
Anderson Pond (Blue Lake), North Stonington		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
Ashland Pond, Griswold							<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Backwater Pond, Thompson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Baldwins Pond, Meriden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Baummer Pond, Naugatuck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Beachland Pond, West Hartford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Besse Park Pond, Torrington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Black Rock Lake, Thomaston	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Branford Supply Ponds, Branford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bull Pond, Harwinton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Butternut Pond, East Windsor									
Christensen's Pond, Granby	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
City Hall Pond, Milford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Dog Pond, Goshen		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
Driscolls Pond, Voluntown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Edgewater Park Pond, New Haven	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Factory Pond, Redding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Ferridge Park Pond, West Hartford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Fitchville Pond, Bozrah									
Fountain Lake Reservoir, Ansonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Glasgo Pond, Griswold	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
Hurlburt Pond, Putnam	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Hyde Pond, Ledyard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Lake Stibbs, Southbury	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lantern Hill Pond, North Stonington		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
Leonard Pond, Kent			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
Lilly Pond, Thompson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Little Pond, Thompson		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							

Waterbody									
Lower Fulton Park Pond, Waterbury	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Lower Storrs Pumping Station Pond, Mansfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Malone's Pond, Bristol	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Mansfield Training School Ponds, Mansfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
McGrath Park Pond (Prospect Park Pond), Prospect	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Mill Woods Park Pond, Wethersfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Mohegan Lake, Fairfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Moosup Pond, Plainfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nells Rock Reservoir (Hope Lake), Shelton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
North Street Pond, Milford									
Pachaug Pond, Griswold	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Page Park Lagoon, Bristol	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Pine Lake (Shelton Reservoir #2), Shelton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Quillinan Reservoir, Ansonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Salmon Brook Pond, Glastonbury	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Salters Pond, Manchester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Sawmill Pond, Ledyard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Simsbury Town Park Ponds, Simsbury	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Stateline Pond, Stafford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Stroh Park Pond, Windsor									
Taftville Pond, Lisbon		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
Tankerhoosen Lake, Vernon									
Tollgate Pond, Greenwich									
Tyler Pond, Goshen		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Upper Fulton Park Pond, Waterbury	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wards Millpond, Branford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Washington Park Pond, Windsor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Whitney Flood Control Pond (Patten Brook), Stafford									
Wood Creek Pond, Norfolk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Zeiner Pond (Lake Winfield), Plymouth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Zemko Pond, Salem									

# Lakes and Ponds With Special Fishing Regulations

This section of the fishing guide provides the **special fishing regulations** by waterbody and the boating regulations for select lakes and ponds. The **default statewide species regulations are in effect in absence of a special regulation**. Please be sure to note any signage on site indicating allowable use, access, or other rules. **[A Trout and Salmon Stamp](#) is required to keep trout or salmon.**

**Allen Brook Pond, Wallingford, See Wharton Pond**

**Alexander Lake, Killingly**

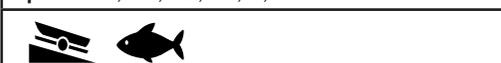
**Size:** 215 acres  
**Species:** LM, SM, CP, S, BB, WP, YP

**No Public Access.** The possession and use of any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait is prohibited.

Motors limited to 12 cubic inches (Approx. 10 horsepower).

**Amos Lake, Preston**

**Size:** 113 acres  
**Species:** T, LM, BB, CP, S, YP



**Trout Management Lake-** Trout  
**From:** March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.

**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1

**Bass Management Lake-** Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 18 inches must be released. Only 1 of the 6 bass may be 18 inches or larger.

8 MPH speed limit except during summer (see CT DEEP Boater's Guide for details).

**Angus Park Pond, Glastonbury**

**Size:** 9 Acres  
**Species:** LM, CP, T, S, BB, YP



Access courtesy of the Town of Glastonbury. Fishing allowed 6:00 a.m. on the second Saturday April to October 31.

Boats and canoes prohibited.

**Aspinook Pond, Griswold**

**Size:** 301 acres  
**Species:** LM, WP, YP, S, CA, CB

Informal watercraft access off Butts Bridge Road, no facilities. Butts Bridge is the demarcation line between the pond and the Quinebaug River.

**Avery Pond, Preston**

**Size:** 36 acres  
**Species:** CP, LM, YP, BB, S



8 MPH speed limit.

**Babcock Pond, Colchester**

**Size:** 119 acres  
**Species:** CP, LM, YP, BB, S



8 MPH speed limit.

**Ball Pond, New Fairfield**

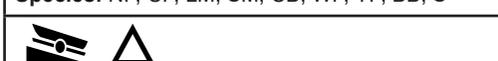
**Size:** 83 acres  
**Species:** T, LM, YP, BB, S



Vessels with motors attached are prohibited. Includes electric motors.

**Bantam Lake and Little Pond, Morris-Litchfield**

**Size:** 947 acres  
**Species:** NP, CP, LM, SM, CB, WP, YP, BB, S



**Northern Pike-**  
**From:** May 1 to November 30  
**Min. Length:** 26 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 2

**From:** December 1 to last day of February  
**Min. Length:** 36 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1

**From:** March 1 to April 30  
**Daily Limit:** 0; Closed for Northern Pike fishing

Possession of live Tench is prohibited. Tench may be fished for and if caught, either immediately released to the water which taken or dispatched.

Motors are 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

Size: 9 acres

Species: S



Boat and canoes prohibited except between May 16 and October 31. All types of motors prohibited.

### Beachdale Pond, Voluntown

Size: 46 acres

Species: T, LM, BB, S, YP



8 MPH speed limit.

### Bashan Lake, East Haddam

Size: 273 acres

Species: T, CP, SM, LM, CB YP, BB, S



#### Bass Management Lake-

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

### Beaver Brook Ponds (Bibbins Ponds), Windham

Size: 20 acres

Species: T, BB, S



Boat and canoes prohibited except between May 16 and October 31. All types of motors prohibited.

### Beaver Park Pond, New Haven

Size: 20 acres

Species: T, BB, S, CC, CA, LM



**Community Fishing Water-** Catfish

**Daily Limit:** 3

### Batterson Park Pond, Farmington-New Britain

Size: 140 acres

Species: LM, YP, BB, S, WA, CC, CA, CB, WP



#### Trophy Common Carp Water:

Common Carp

**Maximum Length:** 26 inches. All Common Carp over 26 inches must be released without avoidable injury.

**Daily Limit:** 1

Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited. Default regulations apply for all other species.

### Beseck Lake, Middlefield

Size: 116 acres

Species: YP, CB, BB, S, LM, NP



8 MPH speed limit except during summer (see CT DEEP Boater's Guide for details).

### Bigelow Pond, Union

Size: 25 acres

Species: T, YP, BB, S, LM



Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### Beach Pond, Voluntown-Rhode Island

Size: 372 acres

Species: CP, LM, YP, BB, S, K, WA, T, SM



**Boundary Water:** CT or RI fishing license legal on entire pond.

**Bass and pickerel:** RI regulations apply

**Trout:** CT regs apply when in CT and RI regs apply when in RI.

**All other species:** CT regulations apply.

No more than 6 tip ups may be used while ice fishing.

### Billings Lake, North Stonington

Size: 97 acres

Species: YP, CB, S, LM, SM, T, CP



#### Bass Management Lake:

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

**Birge Pond, Bristol**

**Size:** 16 acres  
**Species:** T, BB, S, CC, LM



**Community Fishing Water-Catfish**  
**Daily Limit:** 3

**Black Rock Park Pond, Watertown**

**Size:** 10 acres  
**Species:** LM, T, S



**Trout Park-Trout**  
**Daily Limit:** 2

All vessels prohibited

**Bishop Swamp (Jurovaty Pond), Andover**

**Size:** 53 acres  
**Species:** CB, BB, S, LM 

Informal car-top launch. Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

**Bolton Lakes Upper, Middle, Lower, Bolton-Vernon-Coventry**

**Size:** 346 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, CC, SM, YP, CP



**Bass Management Lake-** Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

Motors limited to 6 horsepower.

**Black Pond, Middlefield-Meriden**

**Size:** 76 acres  
**Species:** YP, CB, S, LM, T, CP, CC



**Bass Management Lake-** Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

**Bolton Notch Pond, Bolton**

**Size:** 17 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, YP, CP 

Informal car-top launch.

**Black Pond, Woodstock**

**Size:** 74 acres  
**Species:** YP, CB, S, LM, SM, T, CP



**Trout Management Lake-Trout**  
**From:** March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.  
**Min. Length:** 14 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1

**From:** 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February  
**Daily limit:** 5 trout in aggregate, not more than 1 of which may be a brook trout that is 14 inches or larger.

Motors limited to 5 horsepower.

**Breakneck Pond, Union-Massachusetts**

**Size:** 92 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, CB, YP, CP 

**Boundary Water-**  
 CT regulations apply. A CT or MA fishing license legal on entire pond.

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

Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited. Motor vehicle access prohibited.

**Broad Brook Millpond, East Windsor**

**Size:** 19 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, T, YP  

Use of all motors prohibited.



Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*)

### **Bunnells Pond (Beardsley Park Pond), Bridgeport**

**Size:** 33 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, T, CC



**Community Fishing Water-**  
Catfish  
**Daily Limit:** 3

Ice fishing prohibited. Fee may be required to access the park at certain times of the year.

### **Burr Pond, Torrington**

**Size:** 33 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, CC, CB, CP, YP, BB



8 MPH speed limit.

### **Butternut Park Pond, See Rowans Pond**

### **Candlewood Lake, New Milford- Danbury-Sherman-New Fairfield**

**Size:** 5,064 acres  
**Species:** LM, SM, WP, CB, T, S, CA, WC, BB, YP



**Trout Management Lake-**  
Trout

**From:** March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.

**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1

45 MPH daytime speed limit. 25 MPH speed limit from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise.

Triploid Grass Carp Removal Program: The DEEP invites anglers to help remove triploid Grass Carp from Candlewood Lake. Learn more or sign up here: [DEEP Volunteer Grass Carp Removal Program](#). Please note that is only legal to fish for Grass Carp as part of this program.

### **Cedar Lake, Chester**

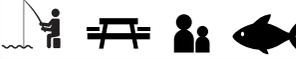
**Size:** 69 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, CP, YP, BB, T



6 MPH speed limit.

### **Center Springs Park Pond, Manchester**

**Size:** 12 acres  
**Species:** T, S, CC, LM



**Community Fishing Water-**  
Catfish  
**Daily Limit:** 3

### **Chatfield Hollow Park Pond, See Schreeder Pond**

### **Lake Chamberlain, Bethany**

**Size:** 107 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, CC, SM, YP, CP



**Bass Management Lake-**

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

Shore fishing only. Ice fishing prohibited. Fishing by permit from the South Central Regional Water Authority. 203-562-4020.

### **Clarks Pond, Hamden**

**Size:** 2 acres  
**Species:** T



Boats and canoes are prohibited. Ice fishing prohibited. Pond is on South Central Regional Water Authority property. 203-562-4020.

### **Colebrook River Lake, Colebrook-Massachusetts**

**Size:** 700 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, RA, SM, YP, CP, T



**Boundary Water-**

CT regulations apply. A CT or MA fishing license legal on entire lake from demarcation posters downstream to the dam. The possession and use of any live Alewife, Blueback (glut or river) Herring, Gizzard, Hickory, or Threadfin shad as bait is prohibited.

**Bass Management Lake-** Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

20 MPH speed limit.

**Colony Park Pond  
(Abe Stone Park Pond), Ansonia**

**Size:** 4 acres  
**Species:** T, S, CC, LM



**Community Fishing Water-**  
Cattfish  
**Daily Limit:** 3

**Congamond Lakes,  
Suffield-Massachusetts**

**Size:** 465 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, SM, YP, CP, T, WP, WC, BB, CA



**Boundary Water-**  
CT or MA fishing license is legal on entire lake.  
**MA regulations apply on entire waterbody:**  
**Trout:** daily creel limit 3 in aggregate. **Bass:** daily creel limit 5 in aggregate, 12 inch minimum length. **Chain Pickerel:** daily creel limit 5, 15 inch minimum length. Not more than two hooks (MA definition) 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 one ounce, and any lead jig (meaning any lead weighted hook) that weighs less than one 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**

**Size:** 373 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, SM, YP, CP, T, WA, WC, BB



**Bass Management Lake-**  
Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

The possession and use of any live Alewife, 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 pm from May 15 to September 15 and noon to 2:00 pm on July 4. 40 MPH speed limit all other times.

**Cream Hill Lake, Cornwall**

No public access. Ice fishing prohibited.

**Crescent Lake, Southington**

**Size:** 4 acres  
**Species:** S, CB, CP, CC, LM



**Community Fishing Water-**  
Cattfish  
**Daily Limit:** 3

**New** **Crystal Lake, Ellington-Stafford**

**Size:** 183 acres  
**Species:** T, S, YP, CP, SM, LM, WP



**Atlantic Salmon:** Follows Commissioner's Declaration. Trout and Salmon Stamp required to keep salmon.

6 MPH speed limit from sunset to 9:00 am and on Sundays from noon to 3:00 pm. 45 MPH speed limit all other times.

**Crystal Lake, Middletown**

**Size:** 32 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, BB, YP



Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

**Day Pond, Colchester**

**Size:** 7 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, BB, YP, T



**Trout Park-**  
Trout  
**Daily Limit:** 2

All vessels prohibited.

**Dodge Pond, East Lyme**

**Size:** 34 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, BB, YP, CP



All types of motors prohibited.

**Dooley Pond, Middletown**

**Size:** 19 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, CP, YP, BB



8 MPH speed limit.

### **Eagleville Lake, Mansfield-Coventry**

**Size:** 77 acres

**Species:** LM, S, SM, YP, CP, BB



8 MPH speed limit. Brigham Road Bridge (Plains Road) is the demarcation line between the lake and the Willimantic River.

### **Farmill Reservoir**

**(Isinglass Reservoir), Shelton**

**Size:** 4 acres

**Species:** LM, S, BB



Permit required to fish, contact Aquarion Water Company at 203-452-3511. Ice fishing prohibited.

### **East Twin Lake**

**(Washing Lake), Salisbury**

**Size:** 569 acres

**Species:** LM, S, SM, YP, CP, T, BB, K



#### **Trout Management Lake-**

Trout

**From:** March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.

**Min. Length:** 22 inches

**Daily Limit:** 1

**From:** 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February

**Daily limit:** 5 trout in aggregate, not more than 1 of which may be a brown trout. The minimum length for Brown Trout is 22 inches

New

#### **Chain Pickerel Management Lake-**

Chain Pickerel

**Min. Length:** 22 inches

**Daily Limit:** 1

Not more than two tip-ups, bobbers or floats, similar devices or hand-held jigging rods in any combination may be used at any one time when ice fishing.

The possession and use of any live Alewife, Blueback (glut or river) Herring, Gizzard, Hickory, or Threadfin shad as bait is prohibited.

35 MPH daytime speed limit. 6 MPH from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour after sunrise. Also 6 MPH within 200 feet of vessel or dock.

### **Fisher Meadows Pond**

**(Spring Lake), Avon**

**Size:** 41 acres

**Species:** LM, S, BB, YP, CA



Ice fishing prohibited.

### **Freshwater Pond, Enfield**

**Size:** 4 acres

**Species:** S, T, CC, LM



#### **Community Fishing Water-**

Catfish

**Daily Limit:** 3

### **Gardner Lake,**

**Salem-Montville-Bozrah**

**Size:** 529 acres

**Species:** LM, SM, T, YP, CA, WA, WC, CC, CB, S



#### **Bass Management Lake-**

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Min. Length:** 16 inches

**Daily Limit:** 2

6 MPH speed limit from sunset to 8:00 am.

### **Factory Pond**

**(Town Grove Pond), Salisbury**

**Size:** 2 acres

**Species:** LM, S, BB

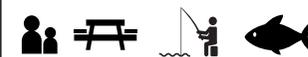


**Children's Fishing Area:** Fishing is restricted to those under 16. Ice fishing is prohibited.

### **Gay City Pond, Hebron**

**Size:** 5 acres

**Species:** S, LM, BB, YP, CP



All vessels prohibited.

**Goodwin Park Pond, Hartford**

**Size:** 4 acres  
**Species:** S 

No fishing allowed from the golf course grounds.

**Griggs Pond, Woodstock**

**Size:** 38 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, BB, YP 

Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited. Access is walk in from Route 198.

**Gorton Pond, East Lyme**

**Size:** 52 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, CB, YP, BB  

8 MPH speed limit.

**Halls Pond, Eastford-Ashford**

**Size:** 82 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, YP, CP  

**Bass Management Lake-**  
 Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

8 MPH speed limit.

**Gould Manor Pond, Fairfield**

**Size:** 2 acres  
**Species:** S  

**Children's Fishing Area:** Fishing is restricted to those under 16.

**Hallville Pond (Indiantown Brook), Preston**

**Size:** 10 acres  
**Species:** LM, S 

Informal car-top/carry in access only. Motors limited to 6 HP or less. 12 MPH speed limit.

**Great Hill Pond, Portland**

**Size:** 76 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, BB, YP, CP, CB, WC 

Informal car-top/carry in access only. Motors limited to 6 HP or less. 12 MPH speed limit.

**Hamilton Reservoir, Union-Massachusetts**

**Size:** 412 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, SM, YP, CP, T, CB 

**Boundary Water-**  
 CT or MA fishing license is legal on entire lake.  
**MA regulations apply on entire reservoir:**  
**Trout:** daily creel limit 3 in aggregate. **Bass:** daily creel limit 5 in aggregate, 12 inch minimum length. **Chain Pickerel:** daily creel limit 5, 15 inch minimum length. Not more than two hooks (MA definition) 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 one ounce, and any lead jig (meaning any lead weighted hook) that weighs less than one 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.

**Great Hollow Pond, Monroe**

**Size:** 15 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, BB, T

**Trout Park-**  
 Trout  
**Daily Limit:** 2  
 Ice fishing is prohibited. Proof of a fishing license may be required to enter Wolfe Park during some times of the year.

**Green Falls Reservoir, Voluntown**

**Size:** 48 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, BB, T

Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### **Hampton Reservoir, Hampton/Eastford**

**Size:** 88 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, BB, YP, CP



Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### **Hancock Brook Lake, Plymouth**

**Size:** 20 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, T



Open 8:00 am to sunset (but no later than 8:00 pm). Walk-in access only after Labor Day weekend until Memorial Day weekend. Access courtesy of the US Army Corps of Engineers.

### **Hanover Pond, Meriden**

**Size:** 70 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, CA



Steerage speed only. Town operated launch.

### **Hanover Reservoir, Canterbury-Sprague**

**Size:** 21 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, T



Access is walk-in only off of Little River Road, Canterbury.

### **Hatch Pond, Kent**

**Size:** 72 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, CB, YP, BB, CP



8 MPH speed limit.

### **Lake Hayward (Shaw Lake), East Haddam**

**Size:** 82 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, YP, CP, CB, BB



#### **Bass Management Lake-**

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### **Hazard Pond, Voluntown-Rhode Island**

**Size:** 15 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, YP, T

#### **Boundary Water-**

CT or RI fishing license is legal on entire lake. RI regulations apply to: **Bass (Largemouth and Smallmouth)-** Daily creel limit 5 (in aggregate), 12-inch minimum length. **Chain Pickerel-** Daily creel limit 5, 14- inch minimum length. **Trout-** 8-inch minimum length. Daily creel limit 5 from second Saturday in April until November 30. Daily creel limit 2 from December 1 until the last day of February.

No more than 6 tip ups per angler when ice fishing.

### **Helen Keller School Pond, Easton**

**Size:** 1 acre  
**Species:** S



**Children's Fishing Area:** Fishing is restricted to those under 16. Ice fishing is prohibited.

### **Hewitt Fly Pond (Gallup Pond), North Stonington**

**Size:** 2 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, T



Fly fishing only. All vessels prohibited.

### **Hewitt Pond (Lower Hewitt Pond), North Stonington**

**Size:** 2 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, T



Operation of vessels with electric motors only.

### **Higganum Reservoir, Haddam**

**Size:** 31 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, T



Public right of way is passable for cars. 8 MPH speed limit.

### Highland Lake, Winchester

**Size:** 445 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, T, CP, YP, SM, WP, CB



**NEW:** from July 1 to October 15 there is no fishing within 100 feet of signs posted by the DEEP at or near the mouth of Taylor Brook.

**Bass Management Lake-**  
Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 2

**Trout Management Lake-**  
Trout  
**From:** March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.  
**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1

**From:** 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February  
**Daily limit:** 5 trout. All trout greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 1 of the 5 trout may be 16 inches or greater.

6 MPH speed limit from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise and from 5:00 pm on Sundays from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. 45 MPH speed limit on weekends and holidays.

### Hodge Pond, Voluntown

**Size:** 10 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, YP, BB, CP



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

### Hogback Reservoir, See West Branch Reservoir

### Holbrook Pond, Hebron

**Size:** 83 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, CB, YP, BB, CP



8 MPH speed limit.

### Hop Brook Lake, Middlebury

**Size:** 26 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, T



Open 8:00 am to sunset (but no later than 8:00 pm). Walk-in access only after Labor Day weekend until Memorial Day weekend. Only electric motors are allowed. Ice fishing prohibited. Access courtesy of the US Army Corps of Engineers.

### Hopeville Pond, Griswold

**Size:** 137 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, CB, YP, BB, CP, WC, CC, NP, T, WP



8 MPH speed limit. State operated launch is open from the second Saturday of April until early October.

### Hopewell Lake, See Huntington Pond

### Horse Pond, Salem

**Size:** 13 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, BB, YP, CP, T



Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### Lake Housatonic, Shelton-Derby-Monroe

**Size:** 328 acres  
**Species:** LM, SM, CB, YP, BB, CP, WC, CC, NP, T, WP, CA, S



**Bass Management Lake-**  
Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 2

Boat launch at Indian Well State Park, opens for daytime (8:00 am to sunset) use on April 1. Park officially closes on September 30th. Boating and Fishing access may continue past this date. Contact Park Manager at 203-735-4311 for fall boating and fishing access. Minimum steerage speed within 25 feet of shore or dock. 45 MPH speed limit daytime, 25 MPH from 1/2 hour after sunset until 1/2 hour before sunrise.

### Howells Pond, Hartland

Size: 14 acres

Species: S, LM, BB, YP, CP, T



Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### Huntington Park Pond (Starret Pond/Hopewell Lake), Redding

Size: 15 acres

Species: S, LM, BB, T



Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### Indian Pond (Lake), Sharon-New York

Size: 196 acres

Species: LM, S, YP, BB

#### Boundary Water-

CT or NY fishing license legal on entire lake. NY regulations apply for taking bass as follows: Season opens 6:00 am second Saturday of April and closes November 30. Daily limit of 6 bass minimum length 12-inches.

Not more than 5 tip ups and 2 handheld jigging rods allowed when ice fishing.

### Isinglass Reservoir, See Farmill Reservoir

### Kaatz Pond, Trumbull

Size: 2 acres

Species: S



**Children's Fishing Area:** Fishing is restricted to those under 16. Ice fishing is prohibited.

### Keach Pond, See Peck Pond

### Keney Park Pond, Hartford

Size: 3 acres

Species: S, T, CC, LM



#### Community Fishing Water-

Catfish

Daily Limit: 3

### Lake Kenosia, Danbury

Size: 60 acres

Species: LM, S, YP, CC, BB



#### Bass Management Lake-

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### Killingly Pond, Killingly-Rhode Island

Size: 122 acres

Species: LM, SM, S, YP, T, CP

#### Boundary Water:

CT or RI fishing license is legal on entire lake. RI regulations apply to: **Bass (Largemouth and Smallmouth)**- Daily creel limit 5 (in aggregate), 12-inch minimum length. **Chain Pickerel**- Daily creel limit 5, 14- inch minimum length. **Trout**- 8-inch minimum length. Daily creel limit 5 from second Saturday in April until November 30. Daily creel limit 2 from December 1 until the last day of February.

No more than 6 tip ups per angler when ice fishing.

Motors are limited to 12 cubic inches (approximately 10 HP).

### Lake of Isles, North Stonington

Size: 89 acres

Species: LM, S, CB, YP, BB, CP



8 MPH speed limit.

### Lakeville Lake, See Lake Wononskopomuc

### Lakewood Lake (Great Brook Reservoir), Waterbury

Size: 73 acres

Species: S, CC, LM, YP, WP



#### Community Fishing Water-

Catfish

Daily Limit: 3

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING - CALL 860-424-3333.  
CT DEEP Law Enforcement Dispatch is open 24/7 365 days.**

**Lake Lillinonah,  
Brookfield-Bridgewater-Southbury**

**Size:** 328 acres  
**Species:** LM, SM, CB, YP, BB, CP, WC, CC, NP, T, WP, CA, S, NP, TM



**Northern Pike AND Tiger Muskie-**  
**Min. Length:** 38 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1 in aggregate

From Bleachery Dam to the Shepaug Dam; 45 MPH speed limit daytime, 25 MPH from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise.

**Little Pond, Litchfield, See Bantam Lake and Little Pond**

**Long Pond, Ledyard-North Stonington**

**Size:** 109 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, YP, T, WA, CP



**Trout Management Lake-**  
Trout

**From:** March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.

**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1  
5 MPH speed limit.

**Mad River Flood Control, Winchester**

**Size:** 8 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, BB, T



All vessels prohibited.

**Malones Pond  
(Pine Lake), Bristol**

**Size:** 18 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, C, YP, T



Ice fishing is prohibited.

**Maltby Lakes (1,2,3), West Haven**

**Size:** 19-23-25 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, CC, BB, CP



**Bass Management Lake-**

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or greater.

Shore fishing only. Fishing by permit from the South Central CT Regional Water Authority (203) 562-4020. Ice fishing prohibited.

**Mamasasco Lake, Ridgefield**

**Size:** 89 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, CB, BB



**Bass Management Lake-**

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

**Manitook Lake, Granby**

**Size:** 57 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, YP, BB

5 MPH speed limit in restricted areas. Use of motors in excess of 7.5 HP prohibited on Saturdays. Ice fishing is permitted on Saturday and Sunday only.

**Mansfield Hollow Reservoir,  
Mansfield**

**Size:** 460 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, CB, BB, NP, CP



**Bass Management Lake-**

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or greater.

8 MPH speed limit.

**Mashapaug Lake, Union**

**Size:** 287 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, CB, BB, WA, CP, T



**Bass Management Lake-**

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or greater.

10 MPH speed limit.

### Lake McDonough (Compensating Reservoir), Barkhamsted-New Hartford

Size: 391 acres

Species: LM, S,YP, CB, BB, SM, CP, T



10 MPH speed limit. Boat launch owned and operated by MDC who charges parking and launch fees. Check the MDC web page or call 860-379-3036 for dates and hours of operation. Shore-based fishing allowed from sunrise to 9:00 pm along Route 219 year-round (when there is open water) where indicated by signage. Ice fishing prohibited.

### McGovern Park Pond, West Hartford

Size: 1 acre

Species: S, LM, T



Trout Park-

Trout

Daily Limit: 2

### Messerschmidt Pond, Westbrook-Essex

Size: 73 acres

Species: S, LM, BB, CP, YP, CB



Operation of vessels with motors prohibited, except electric motors are allowed.

### Mill Pond, Newington

Size: 3 acres

Species: S, LM



**Children's Fishing Area:** Fishing is restricted to those under 16. Ice fishing is prohibited. Default regulations apply for all species.

### Millers Pond, Durham

Size: 33 acres

Species: LM, S,YP, BB, T



Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited. Carry in watercraft access (300 yards).



Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*)

### Mirror Lake (Hubbard Park Pond), Meriden

Size: 8 acres

Species: S, CC, T, CA



Community Fishing Water-

Catfish

Daily Limit: 3

Ice fishing is prohibited.

### Mitchell Pond, East Haddam

Size: 4 acres

Species: S, LM



Boats and canoes are prohibited.

### Mohawk Pond, Cornwall-Goshen

Size: 16 acres

Species: YP, CB, S, LM, SM, T, CP



Trout Management Lake-

Trout

**From:** March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.

**Min. Length:** 14 inches

**Daily Limit:** 1

**From:** 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February

**Daily limit:** 5 trout in aggregate, not more than 1 of which may be a brook trout that is 14 inches or greater

All types of motors prohibited.

### Mohegan Park Pond (Spaulding Pond), Norwich

Size: 14 acres

Species: S, LM, T, CC



Bass Management Lake-

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Min. Length:** 16 inches

**Daily Limit:** 2

Community Fishing Water-

Catfish

Daily Limit: 3

Trout Park-

Trout

Daily Limit: 2

Ice fishing prohibited per town ordinance

### ***Mono Pond, Columbia***

**Size:** 113 acres

**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, CP



8 MPH speed limit.

### ***Mudge Pond (Silver Lake), Sharon***

**Size:** 207 acres

**Species:** LM, S,YP, CB, BB, CP



#### ***Bass Management Lake-***

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 18 inches must be released. Only 1 of the 6 bass may be 18 inches or larger.

Motors limited to 7.5 HP. 6 MPH speed limit. Use of motors prohibited from 1/2 hour after sunset until sunrise and at any time within 200 feet of the town beach.

### ***Moodus Reservoir, East Haddam***

**Size:** 486 acres

**Species:** LM, S,YP, CB, BB, CP



#### ***Bass Management Lake-***

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 18 inches must be released. Only 1 of the 6 bass may be 18 inches or larger.

35 MPH speed limit days, 6 MPH speed limit from 1/2 hour after sunset until 8:00 am.

### ***Naubesatuck Lake,***

### ***See Mansfield Hollow Reservoir***

### ***North Farms Reservoir, Wallingford***

**Size:** 64 acres

**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, CP



8 MPH speed limit.

### ***Morey Pond, Union-Ashford***

**Size:** 45 acres

**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, CP



8 MPH speed limit.

### ***Northfield Brook Lake, Litchfield***

**Size:** 8 acres

**Species:** S, LM, T



Walk-in access only after Columbus Day until the second Saturday of April. Open 8:00 am until sunset. Access courtesy of the US Army Corps of Engineers.

### ***Mount Tom Pond, Washington-Morris-Litchfield***

**Size:** 56 acres

**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, T, AS, WA, CB, CP



#### ***Atlantic salmon-***

Follows Commissioner's Declaration. Trout and Salmon Stamp required to keep salmon.

Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### ***Northfield Cutlery Company Pond, Litchfield***

**Size:** 5 acres

**Species:** S, LM



Public right of way passable for cars.

### ***Norwich Pond, Lyme***

**Size:** 30 acres

**Species:** S, LM



Operation of motor boats prohibited.

### ***Muddy Pond, Woodstock-Massachusetts***

**Size:** 38 acres

**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, T

**No Public Access.** CT regulations apply. A CT or MA fishing license valid on entire pond.

5 HP limit.

### ***Papermill Pond, See Southford Falls Pond***

### ***Park Pond, Winchester***

**Size:** 75 acres

**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, CP



8 MPH speed limit.

### **Pasture Pond, Plainfield**

**Size:** 1 acre

**Species:** T



#### **Trout Park:**

Trout

**Daily Limit:** 2

### **Pattaconk Lake (Russel Jennings Pond), Chester**

**Size:** 56 acres

**Species:** S, LM, BB, T, YP, CP



Carry in watercraft access (75 yards). 8 MPH speed limit. Use of internal combustion engines prohibited during July and August.

### **Pattagansett Lake, East Lyme**

**Size:** 128 acres

**Species:** LM, S, YP, CC, CB, BB, CP



**Bass Management Lake-** Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 18 inches must be released. Only 1 of the 6 bass may be 18 inches or larger.

8 MPH speed limit except during summer (see CT DEEP Boater's Guide for details).

### **Peck Pond, Thompson-Rhode Island**

**Size:** 14 acres

**Species:** LM, SM, CP, CB, BB, S, YP, T

#### **Boundary Water-**

CT or RI fishing license is legal on entire lake. RI regulations apply to. **Bass (Largemouth and Smallmouth)-** Daily creel limit 5 (in aggregate), 12-inch minimum length. **Chain Pickerel-** Daily creel limit 5, 14- inch minimum length. **Trout-** 8-inch minimum length. Daily creel limit 5 from second Saturday in April until November 30. Daily creel limit 2 from December 1 until the last day of February.

No more than 6 tip ups per angler when ice fishing.

### **Perry Pond, Thompson-Massachusetts**

**Size:** 4 acres

**Species:** LM, S, YP, BB, CP

#### **Boundary Water-**

CT regulations apply. A CT or MA fishing license valid on entire pond.

### **Pickereel Lake, Colchester-East Hampton**

**Size:** 82 acres

**Species:** LM, S, YP, CB, BB, CP



#### **Bass Management Lake-**

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

8 MPH speed limit except during summer (see CT DEEP Boater's Guide for details).

### **Picketts Pond, Derby**

**Size:** 9 acres

**Species:** S, CC, T, LM



#### **Community Fishing Water-**

Catfish

**Daily Limit:** 3

### **Pierrepoint Pond, Ridgefield**

**Size:** 38 acres

**Species:** S, LM, BB



Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### **Pine Lake, Shelton**

**Size:** 7 acres

**Species:** S, LM, BB

Ice fishing prohibited.

### **Pine Acres Lake, Hampton**

**Size:** 190 acres

**Species:** S, LM, BB, CP, YP



Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### **Plymouth Reservoir, Plymouth**

**Size:** 39 acres

**Species:** S, LM, YP, WP



Fishing for all species is catch and release only. Motors are prohibited.

### Lake Pocotopaug, East Hampton

**Size:** 502 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, BB, CP, YP, WA, CB, WP, SM

**No public access**

**Walleye:**

**Min. Length:** 20 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 2

The possession and use of any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait is prohibited.

### Powers Lake, East Lyme

**Size:** 144 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, YP, BB, CP



8 MPH speed limit.

### Quaddick Reservoir, Thompson

**Size:** 408 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, YP, BB, CP, CB



Launch open 8:00 am until sunset from April through September.

### Lake Quassapaug, Middlebury-Woodbury

**Size:** 297 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, YP, BB, CP, CB, T

**No Public Access**

**Trout and Bass**

**Min. Length:** 18 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1 trout and 1 bass

Ice fishing prohibited.

6 MPH speed limit, except 25 MPH from Tuesday after Labor Day to 3rd Saturday of April. Use of motors prohibited 11:00 pm to 6:00 am.

### Quinebaug Lake (Wauregan Reservoir), Killingly

**Size:** 88 acres  
**Species:** LM, SM, S, YP, CB, BB, CP, CC, T



**Bass Management Lake-** Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 2

Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### Quonnipaug Lake, Guilford

**Size:** 99 acres  
**Species:** YP, CB, S, LM, SM, T, CP, CC



**Trout Management Lake-** Trout

**From:** March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.

**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1

Motors limited to 6 HP. Operation of motorboats prohibited from 9:00 pm to 6:00 am. Ice fishing prohibited.

### Rainbow Reservoir, Windsor Locks-Windsor

**Size:** 240 acres  
**Species:** LM, SM, S, YP, CB, BB, CP, WP



35 MPH speed limit. Upper boundary of the reservoir is the Route 187 bridge.

### Red Cedar Lake, Lebanon

**Size:** 127 acres  
**Species:** LM, S, YP, BB, CP



Informal car-top launch only, not maintained.

### Rogers Park Pond, Danbury

**Size:** 2 acres  
**Species:** S, CC, T, LM



**Community Fishing Water-** Catfish  
**Daily Limit:** 3

### Rogers Lake, Lyme

**Size:** 260 acres  
**Species:** YP, CB, S, LM, SM, T, CP, CC



**Trout Management Lake-** Trout

**From:** March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.

**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1

Motors limited to 135 HP. 6 MPH speed limit sunset to 10:00 am. See CT DEEP Boater's Guide for additional regulations.

### **Roseland Lake, Woodstock**

**Size:** 96 acres

**Species:** YP, CB, S, LM, T, CP, CA



Access courtesy of Roseland Park. Open sunrise to sunset (closed Thanksgiving and Christmas), unimproved boat launch and fishing dock. Visit Roseland Park web page for additional information about the park.

### **Ross Pond, Killingly**

**Size:** 31 acres

**Species:** S, LM, BB, CP



Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### **Rowans Pond (Butternut Park Pond), Middletown**

**Size:** 3 acres

**Species:** S, CC, T, LM



**Community Fishing Water-** Catfish

**Daily Limit:** 3

### **Saint Martha's Pond, Enfield**

**Size:** 31 acres

**Species:** S, LM, BB, T



Access courtesy of the property owner fishing is allowed April 1 until August 31.

### **Lake Saltonstall, East Haven-Branford**

**Size:** 422 acres

**Species:** YP, CB, S, LM, T, SM, WP, WA



**Bass Management Lake-** Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

**Min. Length:** 18 inches

**Daily Limit:** 1

Use of live bait prohibited. Fishing by permit from South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority 203-401-2654. Boat rental available. No outside vessels allowed. Ice fishing prohibited.

### **Saugatuck Reservoir, Easton-Redding-Weston**

**Size:** 827 acres

**Species:** YP, CB, S, LM, T, SM, WA



Permit required to fish from Aquarion Water Company 203-452-3511. Fishing permitted from west shoreline only. Boating, wading, or flotation devices are prohibited. The possession and use of any live Alewife, Blueback (glut or river) Herring, Gizzard, Hickory, or Threadfin shad as bait is prohibited. Ice fishing prohibited.

### **Savin Lake, Lebanon**

**Size:** 49 acres

**Species:** S, LM, BB, CP, YP



Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

### **Schreeder Pond (Chatfield Hollow Park Pond), Killingworth**

**Size:** 4 acre

**Species:** S, LM,T



**Trout Park:** Trout

**Daily Limit:** 2

Walk-in access only during the off season. All vessels prohibited.

### **Scoville Reservoir (Woodtick Reservoir), Wolcott**

**Size:** 121 acres

**Species:** YP, CB, S, LM, T, CP, CC



Shore fishing is allowed within designated fishing areas. Fishing within the conservation zone is prohibited.

Possession of live Bowfin is prohibited. Bowfin may be fished for and if caught, either immediately released to the water which taken or dispatched.

Operation of vessels prohibited from sunset to sunrise. Use or possession of internal combustion engines prohibited.

### **Seymour Reservoirs (1-2-3-4), Seymour**

**Size:** 5-35-12-37 acres

**Species:** YP, CB, S, LM, CP



Walk-in access only.

### **Shelton Reservoir 2, See Pine Lake**

### **Shenipsit Lake, Ellington-Tolland-Vernon**

**Size:** 532 acres

**Species:** YP, CB, S, LM, T, CP, CC, CA, WP, SM



Use of boats restricted to those stored on site. Contact the Shenipsit Lake boat storage facility 860-875-1850 for additional information. The possession and use of any live Alewife, Blueback (glut or river) Herring, Gizzard, Hickory, or Threadfin shad as bait is prohibited. Ice fishing prohibited.

**Silver Lake, Berlin**

**Size:** 146 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, CP, CC, CB



8 MPH speed limit except during summer (see CT DEEP Boater's Guide for details).

**Sochrin Pond, Seymour**

**Size:** 3 acres  
**Species:** S




**Children's Fishing Area:** Fishing is restricted to those under 16. Ice fishing is prohibited.

**Somersville Mill Pond, Somers**

**Size:** 41 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, CP, T




6 MPH speed limit. Unimproved town launch.

**Southford Falls Pond (Papermill Pond), Oxford-Southbury**

**Size:** 3 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, T








**Trout Park-**  
 Trout  
**Daily Limit:** 2

**South Spectacle Pond, Kent**

**Size:** 85 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, CP, CB

Walk-in access only. Public right of way is NOT passable for cars.

**Spaulding Pond, See Mohegan Park Pond**



Common Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*)

**Squantz Pond, New Fairfield-Sherman**

**Size:** 270 acres  
**Species:** YP, CB, S, LM, T, CP, CC, CA, WP, SM









**Trout Management Lake-**  
 Trout  
**From:** March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.  
**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1

**Trophy Common Carp Water-**  
 Common Carp  
**Maximum Length:** 26 inches. All Common Carp over 26 inches must be released without avoidable injury.  
**Daily Limit:** 1

Motors on boats launched from Squantz Pond State Park are limited to 25 HP. 45 MPH daytime speed limit, 25 MPH from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise. Fishing from shore prohibited behind fence along the shoreline within the State Park from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

**Stanley Quarter Park Pond, New Britain**

**Size:** 7 acres  
**Species:** S, CC, T, LM






**Community Fishing Water-**  
 Catfish  
**Daily Limit:** 3

**Starret Pond, See Huntington Pond**

**Stillwater Pond, Torrington**

**Size:** 94 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, BB, CP, YP, CC, T








Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

**Stratton Brook Park Pond, Simsbury**

**Size:** 2 acres  
**Species:** S, LM,T








**Trout Park-**  
 Trout  
**Daily Limit:** 2  
 Walk-in access only during the off season.

**Taftville Reservoir, Norwich**

**Size:** 25 acres  
**Species:** S, LM, BB 

Access through Raymond Ouellette Park.  
**Bass Management Lake-**  
 Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 2

**Tetreault Pond, Killingly**

**Size:** 39 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, CP 

8 MPH speed limit.

**Twin Brooks Park Pond, Trumbull**

**Size:** 4 acres  
**Species:** S, T    

Ice fishing prohibited by town ordinance. *NOTE: A permit may be required to access the park. This pass can be acquired free by anglers wishing to fish the waters by visiting the Trumbull Parks and Recreation Department.*

**Uncas Lake (Hog Pond), Lyme**

**Size:** 69 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, CP, T

Operation of motorboats prohibited.

**Valley Falls Pond, Vernon**

**Size:** 4 acres  
**Species:** S, LM,T

**Trout Park-**  
 Trout  
**Daily Limit:** 2

**Walkers Reservoir (East), Vernon**

**Size:** 5 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, CP, T

All vessels prohibited.

**Wangumbaug Lake,  
 See Coventry Lake**

**Lake Waramaug,  
 Kent-Warren-Washington**

**Size:** 656 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, CP, T, WC, SM, CB

Carry in access in Lake Waramaug State Park. Boating access is also available to the public at the town boat launch in Washington (fee and inspection required). Boats and trailers failing inspection for aquatic invasive species will not be allowed to use the launch. Days and hours vary seasonally, contact the Washington Parks and Recreation Department at 860-868-1519 for more information.

**Warner Pond  
 (Kazan's Pond), Newtown**

**Size:** 12 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB 

Walk-in access only.

**West Branch Reservoir  
 (Hogback), Colebrook-Hartland**

**Size:** 201 acres  
**Species:** S, T, LM, RA, YP, SM

The possession and use of any live Alewife, Blueback (glut or river) Herring, Gizzard, Hickory, or Threadfin shad as bait is prohibited.

**West Hill Pond,  
 Barkhamsted-New Hartford**

**Size:** 261 acres  
**Species:** S, T, LM, RA, YP, SM

**Trout Management Lake-**  
 Trout  
**From:** March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.  
**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1

The possession and use of any live Alewife, 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. 8 HP motor limit from Memorial Day through September 15.

**Wauregan Reservoir,  
See Quinebaug Lake**

**West Pequonnock Reservoir, Monroe**

Size: 2 acres  
Species: S, LM



Permit required to fish contact Aquarion Water Company at 203-452-3511. Ice fishing prohibited.

**West Side Pond, Goshen**

Size: 42 acres  
Species: S, T, LM, BB, YP



**Bass Management Lake-**  
Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

8 MPH speed limit except during summer (see CT DEEP Boater's Guide for details).

**West Thompson Lake, Thompson**

Size: 239 acres  
Species: S, LM, BB, YP, CB, CA, WP, SM, TM



**Common Carp Enhanced Bow and Arrow Fishing Water-**  
Common Carp, When fishing with bow and arrow  
**Daily Limit:** 12, not more than 3 of which can be greater than 30 inches.

**West Twin Lake  
(Washinee Lake), Salisbury**

Size: 290 acres  
Species: S, LM, BB, YP, CB, CP

35 MPH daytime speed limit except 6 MPH from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour after sunrise and when within 200 feet of any vessel or dock. The possession and use of any live Alewife, Blueback (glut or river) Herring, Gizzard, Hickory, or Threadfin shad as bait is prohibited.



**Chain Pickerel Management Lake:**

Chain Pickerel  
**Min. Length:** 22 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1

Black Crappie  
(*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*)



**Wharton Pond (Allen Brook Pond),  
Wallingford-North Haven**

Size: 5 acres  
Species: S, LM, T



**Trout Park-**  
Trout  
**Daily Limit:** 2



**Community Fishing Water-**  
Catfish  
**Daily Limit:** 3

All vessels prohibited.

**Williams Pond  
(Lake Williams), Lebanon**

Size: 7 acres  
Species: LM, S, YP, BB, CP, CB



Informal car-top access from dam on Route 207.

**Winchester Lake, Winchester**

Size: 246 acres  
Species: LM, S, YP, BB, CP, CB, NP



8 MPH speed limit.

**Lake Winnemaug, Watertown**

Size: 113 acres  
Species: LM, S, YP, BB, CP, CB, WP



Possession of live Tench is prohibited. Tench may be fished for and if caught, either immediately released to the water which taken or dispatched.

7 MPH speed limit. Vessels with internal combustion engines attached prohibited.

**Lake Wintergreen, Hamden**

Size: 44 acres  
Species: S, CC, T, LM



**Community Fishing Water-**  
Catfish  
**Daily Limit:** 3

Use of internal combustion engines to propel a vessel prohibited.

## Lake Wononskopomuc (Lakeville Lake), Salisbury

**Size:** 348 acres  
**Species:** LM, S,YP, BB, CP, CB



### Bass Management Lake-

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Daily Limit:** 6 bass. All bass greater than 12 inches and less than 16 inches must be released. Only 2 of the 6 bass may be 16 inches or larger.

### Trout Management Lake-

Trout  
**From:** March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April.  
**Min. Length:** 22 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1

**From:** 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February  
**Daily limit:** 5 trout in aggregate, not more than 1 of which may be a brown trout. The minimum length for Brown Trout is 22 inches

### New Chain Pickerel Management Lake:

Chain Pickerel  
**Min. Length:** 22 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 1

Not more than two tip-ups, bobbers or floats, similar devices or hand-held jigging rods in any combination may be used at any one time when ice fishing.

The possession and use of any live Alewife, Blueback (glut or river) Herring, Gizzard, Hickory, or Threadfin shad as bait is prohibited.

No outside vessels are being allowed per town of Salisbury. The town has vessels for rent. Motors restricted to 112 cubic inches (approximately 10 HP). [Town operated boat launch.](#)

## Wyassup Lake, North Stonington

**Size:** 99 acres  
**Species:** S, T, LM, SM, CP, BB



### Bass Management Lake-

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass  
**Min. Length:** 16 inches  
**Daily Limit:** 2

8 MPH speed limit, see CT DEEP Boaters Guide for summer exemption.

## Lake Zoar, Oxford-Monroe-Newtown-Southbury

**Size:** 909 acres  
**Species:** LM, SM,YP, BB, CP, CB, WP, CA, WC, WA, S



45 MPH daytime speed limit, 25 MPH from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise.

## Fishing In These Areas Is Prohibited

**1. Swim Areas:** Casting or fishing is prohibited in swim areas permitted by the DEEP. There is a no wake zone 100 feet around the perimeter.

**2. Fishways and Fish Ladders:** Fishing is prohibited 250 feet upstream and downstream of most fishways. Some fishways differ and the no fishing zone is marked by signage posted by DEEP or by large rocks painted red. Questions should be directed to the Diadromous Fish Program 860-434-6043.

## Tips For Better Catch and Release

**Bait Fishing** is a popular and effective technique. However, the baited hook is often swallowed by the fish resulting in a hook deeply embedded in the stomach ("gut"). To reduce "gut hooking" a fish, anglers should set the hook immediately before the bait can be completely swallowed. If a fish is "gut hooked" the best way to minimize injury is to cut the line as close to the hook eye as possible. This helps to prevent severe damage to the fish's internal organs while trying to remove a hook. If the hook is not stainless steel, it will eventually corrode due to the fish's stomach acids. Fishing tools including needle nose pliers, hemostats, hook disgorgers, and wire cutting pliers can be very helpful to minimize injury to the fish and hook removal time.

**Artificial Lures** are often rigged with multiple treble hooks. One disadvantage of these lures is that a fish struggling to escape capture will often hook itself with the remaining treble hooks, leading to additional injury. Anglers should try to use lures with a single hook if possible, [replace treble hooks](#) (scan QR code at right for a DIY video) with steel hooks (not stainless), crimp the barbs on the hooks, or reduce the number of treble hooks on the lure. Any combination of these actions will reduce catch and release mortality.

Release tips video



Swap hooks video



# Rivers and Streams

This section of the fishing guide provides information about fishing regulations for many river and stream sections. There may be additional waters located in municipal parks, on land trust property, or other properties accessible to the public that are not listed here. Please be sure to note any signage on site indicating allowable use, access, or other rules. Always request permission prior to fishing on private property.

## Rivers/Streams that Follow Default (Statewide) Fishing Regulations

**Bold indicates portions are stocked with trout by CT DEEP**

A [Trout and Salmon Stamp](#) is required to keep trout or salmon.

**NEW 9-inch minimum length for trout.**

**Aspetuck River, Easton-Weston**  
**Bartlett Brook, Lebanon**  
**Beaver Brook, Franklin-Sprague**  
**Bible Rock Brook, Haddam**  
**Bigelow Brook, Eastford-Union**  
**Blackledge River, Glastonbury-Marlborough**  
**Blackwell Brook, Brooklyn**  
Bladens River, Woodbridge-Seymour  
**Branford River, Branford**  
**Broad Brook, Ellington**  
**Bungee Brook, Woodstock**  
Bunnell Brook, Burlington  
**Butternut Brook, Litchfield**  
**Byram River, Greenwich**  
Candlewood Hill Brook, Haddam  
Cedar Swamp Brook, Stafford  
Cedar Swamp Brook, Sterling  
Center Brook, Colebrook  
**Choate Brook, Preston**  
Colebrook Brook, Colebrook  
Copps Brook, Stonington  
Delphi Brook, Stafford  
Denison Brook, Voluntown  
**Dickenson Creek, Marlborough**  
**East Branch Eightmile River, Salem**  
**East Branch Naugatuck River\*, Torrington**  
**East Swamp Brook, Bethel**  
**Eightmile River, Salem-Lyme\***  
Exeter Brook, Lebanon  
**Falls River, Essex-Westbrook**  
**Farmill River, Monroe-Stratford**  
Fawn Brook (and West Br.), Marlborough  
**Fivemile River, Thompson-Killingly**  
Flat Brook, East Hampton  
**French River, Thompson**  
Freshwater Brook, Enfield  
**Furnace Brook, Stafford**  
Gillette Brook, Somers  
Haleys Brook, Groton  
**Hop Brook, Middlebury-Waterbury**  
**Hop River, Bolton-Coventry**  
**Hunts Brook, Montville-Watertown**  
**Indiantown Brook, Ledyard-Preston**  
Indian Meadow Brook, Winchester  
**Jeremy River, Colchester**  
Judd Brook, Colchester  
Joe Clark Brook, Ledyard  
**Kitt Brook, Canterbury**  
Laurel Brook, Middletown  
**Leadmine Brook, Harwinton**  
**Little River, Canterbury-Hampton**  
**Mad River, Winchester**  
Mary Brown Brook, Putnam  
Meadow Brook, Colchester  
**Middle River, Stafford**  
Mill Brook, Cornwall  
Mill Brook, Winchester  
**Mill Brook, Woodstock**  
Mine Brook, Portland  
**Morrissey Brook, Sherman**  
**Mount Hope River, Ashford-Mansfield**  
**Mount Misery Brook, Voluntown**  
**Muddy River, North Haven**  
**Myron Kinnie Brook, Voluntown**  
**Nepaug River, New Hartford**  
**Nonewaug River, Woodbury**  
**Northfield Brook, Litchfield-Thomaston**  
**Oxoboxo Brook, Montville**  
**Pachaug River, Voluntown**  
Parmalee Brook, Durham  
**Pattaconk Brook, Chester**  
Pine Brook, East Hampton  
**Pond Brook, Newtown**  
**Ponset Brook, Haddam**  
Poquetanuck Brook, Preston  
**Quanduck Brook, Killingly-Sterling**  
**Quinebaug River, Putnam-Norwich**  
**Reservoir Brook, Portland**  
Ratum Brook, New Hartford  
Raymond Brook, Hebron  
**Rippowam River, Stamford**  
**Roaring Brook, Haddam**  
**West Branch Saugatuck River, Weston-Westport**  
Safstrom Brook, East Hampton  
**Sandy Brook, Colebrook**  
**Sawmill Brook, Sherman**  
**Scantic River, East Windsor-Enfield-Somers**  
Seth Williams Brook, Ledyard  
**Shepaug River, Roxbury**  
Shewville Brook, Preston  
**Shunock River, North Stonington\***  
**Skungamaug River, Coventry**

\* Indicates the prior special fishing regulations for the waterbody have been removed as of January 1, 2026.

Snake Meadow Brook, Plainfield-Sterling  
 Sprain Brook, Woodbury  
 Still River, Colebrook/Barkhamsted/  
 Winchester  
 Still River, Eastford-Woodstock  
 Still River, Danbury  
 Stony Brook, Suffield  
 Sugar Brook, Plainfield  
 Summer Brook, Middletown  
 Susquetonscut Brook, Bozrah-Lebanon

Taylor Brook, Woodstock  
 Tenmile River, Cheshire  
 Tenmile River, Lebanon-Columbia  
 Wappoquia Brook, Pomfret  
 Weekepeemee River, Woodbury  
 Wepawaug River, Orange-Milford  
 West River, Guilford  
 Whetsone Brook, Killingly  
 Whitford Brook, North Stonington\*  
 Wyassup Brook, North Stonington

## Summary of Fisheries Management Categories and Associated Waters

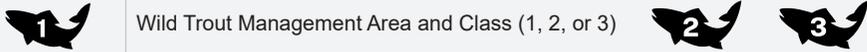
The Fisheries Division makes use of a variety of tools to optimize catch rates for some of the more popular game fish species. These tools (regulations) can be daily creel limits, minimum or maximum size limits, or limits on the type of gear that can be used. These regulations can, and do, vary by waterbody. This section of the fishing guide details waters that have special fishing regulations.

Management Category and Regulation(s)	Waters or Portions of Waters
<b><u>Trout Management Areas (TMA)</u></b>	
<p><b>Year-round catch and release fishing only:</b>            * Indicates some or all of the TMA is limited to fly fishing gear only. A trout and salmon stamp is required to fish in these waters.</p>	<p>Coppermine Brook, Farmington River, Hockanum River, Housatonic River*, Mill River (Fairfield), Moosup River*, Naugatuck River, Pequabuck River, Tenmile River (Kent/Sherman), Willimantic River*</p>
<p><b>Seasonal Harvest:</b> Catch and release fishing only from September 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April. Harvest allowed from 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until August 31. A trout and salmon stamp is required to fish in these waters.            * Indicates some or all of the TMA is limited to fly fishing gear only.</p>	<p>Farmington River, Hammonasset River, Mianus River, Mill River (Hamden), Salmon River*, Saugatuck River*, Yantic River*</p>
<b><u>Wild Trout Management Areas (WTMA)</u></b>	
<p><b>Class 1:</b> Year-round catch and release fishing only and requires the use of a single barbless hook on an artificial lure or fly. A trout and salmon stamp is required to fish in these waters.</p>	<p>Beaver Brook (Barkhamsted), Beaver Brook (Scotland), Belden Brook (Granby), Bonemill Brook (Tolland), Cold Brook and tributaries (Glastonbury), Deep Brook (Newtown), Eightmile River (Southington), Freeman Hill Brook, Green Falls River, Gulf Stream (Somers), Hall Meadow Brook (Norfolk), Hawleys Brook, Hurricane Brook, Indian Hole Brook, Jericho Brook, Lowden Brook, Macedonia Brook, Merrick Brook, Mill River (Fairfield), Mohawk Pond Outflow, Morgan Brook, Pease Brook, Pootatuck River, Quinnipiac River, Railroad Brook, Sages Ravine Brook, Spruce Brook (Litchfield), Stratton Brook, Stony Brook (Montville), Tankerhoosen River, Thorne Brook, Wachocastinook Brook, West Branch Salmon Brook and Tributaries (Hartland), Willow Brook and Tributaries (Cheshire)</p>
<p><b>Class 2:</b> Daily limit of 2 trout with a 12-inch minimum length. Harvest is allowed from 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February. Catch and release only March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April. A trout and salmon stamp is required to fish in these waters.</p>	<p>Furnace Brook (Cornwall), Salmon Brook (Glastonbury)</p>

Management Category and Regulation(s)	Waters or Portions of Waters
<p><b>Class 3:</b> Catch and release only March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April. Daily limit of 5 trout from 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February. A trout and salmon stamp is required to fish in these waters.</p>	<p>Beacon Hill Brook, Blackberry River, East Aspetuck River, Farm River, Fenton River, Little River (Oxford), Norwalk River, Roaring Brook (Glastonbury), Roaring Brook (Willington), Salmon Brook (Granby)</p>
<p><b>Trout Parks:</b> Catch and release only March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April. Daily limit of 2 trout from 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February. A trout and salmon stamp is required to fish in these waters.</p>	<p>Branch Brook, Chatfield Hollow Brook, Eightmile Brook (Oxford), Kent Falls Brook, Kettletown Brook, Macedonia Brook (in the state park), Mashamoquet Brook, Natchaug River</p>
<p><b>Trophy Trout Areas:</b> Catch and release only March 1 to 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April. Daily limit of 2 trout from 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February. A trout and salmon stamp is required to keep trout or salmon.</p>	<p>Natchaug River, Naugatuck River, Pequonnock River, Pomperaug River, Salmon River, Shetucket River</p>
<p><b>Sea-Run Trout Streams:</b> Daily limit is 2 trout, 15- inch minimum length. Harvest of trout is allowed year-round. A trout and salmon stamp is required to keep trout.</p>	<p>Farm River, Hammonasset River, Latimer Brook, Oil Mill Brook, and Saugatuck River</p>
<p><b>Atlantic Salmon Management Areas:</b> Fishing for Atlantic salmon requires use of a fly or an artificial lure with a single free-swinging hook at all times. From September 1 to March 31 the same gear is required regardless of species sought. A trout and salmon stamp is required to fish in these waters.</p> <p>Catch and release fishing only from September 1 to December 16.</p> <p>One salmon per angler per day from December 16 until August 31. No minimum size.</p>	<p>Naugatuck River from the Route 118 bridge (Harwinton/Litchfield) downstream to the Thomaston Army Corps Dam (Thomaston), Naugatuck River from Prospect Street (Naugatuck) to Pines Bridge Road (Beacon Falls), Shetucket River from the Scotland Dam to the Occum Dam</p>
<p><b>Bass Management Areas:</b> Catch and release fishing only. All bass must be returned immediately without avoidable injury. <i>NOTE there is a section of the Housatonic River in Cornwall, which is limited to fly fishing only regardless if fishing for bass or other species.</i></p>	<p>Housatonic River (CT/MA state line to the Bleachery Dam in New Milford), Tenmile River (Kent/Sherman).</p>
<p><b>Trophy Carp Waters:</b> These waters have a daily limit of 1 carp and <b>MAXIMUM</b> size limit of 26 inches. Some sections have different rules for bow and arrow fishing.</p>	<p>Coginchaug River, Connecticut River and its coves, Farmington River, Mattebesset River, Salmon River</p>
<p><b>Common Carp Enhanced Bow and Arrow Fishing Waters:</b> Portions of these waters have a daily creel limit of 12 carp with not more than 3 of the 12 carp greater than 30 inches.</p>	<p>Coginchaug River, Connecticut River and its coves downstream of the Arrigoni Bridge, Housatonic River downstream of the Derby Dam, Mattebesset River, Quinnipiac River, Salmon River, Shetucket River, Thames River, Yantic River</p>
<p><b>Tidal Waters and Tributaries:</b> Sections of these waters where trout harvest is allowed year-round. Special rules apply to for some species in these sections. Daily limit is 2 trout, 15-inch minimum length.</p>	<p>Coginchaug River, Connecticut River, Farmington River, Housatonic River, Mattebesset River, Mystic River, Naugatuck River, Niantic River, Quinnipiac River, Salmon River, Shetucket River, Thames River, Yantic River</p>

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING - CALL 860-424-3333.  
CT DEEP Law Enforcement Dispatch is open 24/7 365 days.**

## Amenity Icons

Icon	Description
	Accessible to people with a variety of abilities
	<a href="#">A Trout and Salmon Stamp</a> is required to fish here regardless if harvesting or not. A trout and salmon stamp is required to harvest (keep) trout or salmon from any/all public waters.
	Wild Trout Management Area and Class (1, 2, or 3)
	Area is adequate for picnicking
	Child-friendly fishing
	Camping on-site or nearby
	<a href="#">Fishing line recycling</a> container at some access locations
	Fly fishing only section
	Car top watercraft access in sections
	Trailer launch in sections
	Stocked with adult trout
<b>ATS</b>	Stocked with adult Atlantic Salmon
	The Department of Public Health has issued a "Do Not Eat" consumption advisory for one or more types of fish in parts of this waterbody. Please visit the <a href="#">Fish Consumption Advisory webpage</a> for details.

### Fish Legally - Respect Private Property.

### Maps, Apps, And Social Media Posts May Not Tell The Full Story.

**Drinking Water Supply Reservoirs are closed** to public access unless explicitly allowed by the water company.

**The stream bottom can be privately owned.** Wading in a stream or river may be considered trespassing. When in doubt ask permission from the landowner and always respect landowner's right to post their property.

### Discarding 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/or deep wounding. Birds are especially susceptible to entanglement as line is an attractive material to add to nests.

Receptacles to dispose of fishing line when fishing have been installed in dozens of locations around the state. Visit the DEEP webpage for the [list of receptacles](#).

# Rivers and Streams or Sections of Rivers and Streams With Special Fishing Regulations

Statewide regulations apply to the sections of rivers or streams which are outside of the areas described for each waterbody in this section.

**Bantam River, Litchfield**



Fly Fishing only downstream of the upper West Morris Road crossing as indicated by posters.

**Beacon Hill Brook, Beacon Falls**



Wild Trout Management Area Class 3: From the Route 63 crossing to the Naugatuck River.

**Beaver Brook, Barkhamsted**



Wild Trout Management Area Class 1: Entire brook.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Beaver Brook, Scotland**



Wild Trout Management Area Class 1: Within the Talbot Wildlife Management Area.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Belden Brook, Hartland-Granby**



Wild Trout Management Area Class 1: Entire brook.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Blackberry River, Canaan**



Wild Trout Management Area Class 3: The confluence with the Whiting River downstream to the Housatonic River.

**Bonemill Brook, Tolland**



Wild Trout Management Area Class 1: Upstream of Sweatheart Lake.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Branch Brook, Watertown-Thomaston**



Trout Park: Within Black Rock State Park

**Trout:**  
Daily Limit: 2

**Brooksvale Stream, Cheshire-Hamden**



Wild Trout Management Area Class 1: Entire stream.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Chatfield Hollow Brook, Killingworth**



Trout Park: Within Chatfield Hollow State Park

**Trout:**  
Daily Limit: 2

**Coginchaug River, Middletown**



Tidal Waters and Tributaries and Trophy Common Carp Water: Route 3 crossing to the Connecticut River.

**Trout:**  
Min. Length: 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.  
Daily limit: 2

**Common Carp:** When angling  
Maximum Length: 26-inches  
Daily limit: 2 carp

**Common Carp Enhanced Bow and Arrow Fishing Water-** When fishing with bow and arrow  
Daily Limit: 12 carp, not more than 3 of which can be greater than 30 inches.

New

**Cold Brook and Tributaries, Glastonbury**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Cold Brook upstream of the confluence with Roaring Brook (ii) Mott Hill Brook, and (iii) Dark Hollow Brook.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Connecticut River and Coves, Enfield-Old Saybrook**



**Tidal Waters and Tributaries and Trophy Common Carp Water:**

**Trout:**

**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.

**Daily limit:** 2

**Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass:**

**Min. Length:** 12-inches

**Daily limit:** 6

**Northern Pike:**

**Min. Length:** 24-inches

**Daily limit:** 2

**Common Carp:** When angling

**Maximum Length:** 26-inches

**Daily limit:** 2 carp

**Common Carp Enhanced Bow and Arrow**

**Fishing Water:** When fishing with bow and arrow downstream of the Arrigoni Bridge in Middletown

**Daily Limit:** 12 carp, not more than 3 of which can be greater than 30 inches.

**Alewife and Blueback Herring:** closed to all fishing/taking.

Possession of live Bowfin is prohibited. Bowfin may be fished for and if caught, either immediately released to the water which taken or dispatched.

**Coppermine Brook, Bristol**



**Year-Round Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** Artisan Street to the Pequabuck River.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round.

New

**Dark Hollow Brook, Glastonbury**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Deep Brook, Newtown**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Wasser-man Way to the Pootatuck River. Includes a portion of the Pootatuck River above and below the confluence as posted with signs by the CT DEEP.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**East Aspetuck River, Washington-New Milford**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 3:** Lake Waramaug to the Housatonic River.

**East Branch Salmon Brook, Granby**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 3:** Route 20 downstream to the Farmington River:

**Eightmile Brook, Southbury-Oxford**



**Trout Park:** Within Southford Falls State Park

**Trout:**  
**Daily Limit:** 2

**Eightmile River, Southington**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** The entire river in Southington.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.



Bowfin (*Amia calva*)

**Farm River, North Branford-East Haven**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 3:** Mill Road to Route 95.

**Sea-Run Trout Stream:** Downstream of Route 95. **Trout:**

**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.

**Daily limit:** 2

**Farmington River/West Branch Farmington River, Hartland-Windsor**



**Seasonal Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** Hogback Dam (Hartland) to old abutments (Barkhamsted). **Trout:**

September 1 until 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April, catch and release only. From 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until August 31, daily limit 2 fish, 12-inch minimum length.

**Year-Round Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** Old bridge abutments (Barkhamsted) to Route 219 (New Hartford). **Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Barbless hooks required.

**Seasonal Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** Route 219 (New Hartford) to Route 177 (Farmington). **Trout:** September 1 until 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April, catch and release only. From 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until August 31, daily limit 2 fish, 12-inch minimum length.

**Route 177 (Farmington) to Rainbow Reservoir (Windsor Locks).** **Trout:** March 1 until 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April, catch and release only. From 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until the last day of February, daily limit 5 fish.

**Tidal Waters and Tributaries:** The confluence with Rainbow Brook (confluence of the tail race canal and the spillway channel) downstream to the CT River

**Trout:**

**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.

**Daily limit:** 2

**Trophy Common Carp Water:** **Common Carp**  
**Maximum Length:** 26-inches

**Daily limit:** 2 carp

*Note: All fishing is prohibited from the confluence with Rainbow Brook UPSTREAM to the Rainbow Dam in either the tail race canal and the spillway channel.*

**Fenton River, Willington-Mansfield**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 3:** Entire river in Willington and Mansfield.

**Freeman Hill Brook, Burlington**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Upstream of Route 69 crossing through Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Furnace Brook, Cornwall Heather Reeves Wild Trout Management Area**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 2:** Entire waterbody upstream of the Housatonic River as posted with signs by CT DEEP.

**Trout:**

**Min. Length:** 12-inches

**Daily limit:** 2

Never miss when your favorite fishing hole gets stocked. The Fisheries Division's [Interactive Trout Stocking Map](#) is updated daily.



Interactive Trout Stocking Map  
<http://bitly.ws/yyNM>



Eastern Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*)

New

### Green Falls River, North Stonington



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Upstream of the confluence with Wyassup Brook.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

### Hickory Brook, Cheshire-Hamden



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

### Gulf Stream and Tributaries, Somers



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Gulf Stream upstream of confluence with the Scantic River and Lievre Brook.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

### Higley Brook, Granby



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook

**Trout:** Catch and Release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

### Hall Meadow Brook, Goshen-Norfolk



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Upstream of the Torrington town line.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

### Hockanum River, Vernon-East Hartford



**Year-Round Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** Route 84 crossing in Vernon downstream to the 1-84 crossing in Laurel Marsh.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round.

### Hammonasset River, Madison



**Seasonal Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** From Lake Hammonasset dam to Chestnut Hill Road (Madison)

**Trout:** September 1 until 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April, catch and release only. From 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April until August 31, daily limit 2 fish.

**Sea-Run Trout Stream:** Downstream of the breached dam above River Road.

**Trout:**

**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.

**Daily limit:** 2

### Hawleys Brook, Easton-Weston



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Within Trout Brook Valley Property.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

Stay up to date with all of the latest fishing news, tips, pointers, and monthly mystery fish. Subscribe to the Fisheries Division's FREE monthly e-newsletter

### CT Fishin' Tips



CT DEEP's  
Fishin' Tips Newsletter  
<https://bitly.cx/K3grp>

### Housatonic River, Salisbury-Milford



**Year-Round Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** Route 112 (Sharon) to Route 4/Route 7 crossing (Cornwall). **Trout-** catch and release year-round.

Gear restricted to fly fishing only, regardless of species fished for, within the 3-mile section upstream of the Route 4/7 bridge as posted with signs by CT DEEP.

June 15 to September 15 **fishing prohibited** within 100 feet of thermal refuges as posted with signs by CT DEEP.

**Year-Round Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** Bulls Bridge Dam (Kent) to Route 7 bridge (New Milford). **Trout-** catch and release year-round.

June 15 to September 15 **fishing prohibited** within 100 feet of thermal refuges as posted with signs by CT DEEP.

**Bass Management Area:** Entire river from CT state line to the Bleachery Dam in New Milford. All bass must be released immediately without avoidable injury. **NOTE:** *there is a section of river in Cornwall that is limited to fly fishing only. This is regardless of the species being sought.*

**Atlantic salmon:** Derby Dam to Merritt Parkway Bridge September 1 to December 15, catch and release only. December 16 to August 31, daily limit 1 salmon, no minimum length. When fishing for Atlantic Salmon gear is restricted to single fly or lure with a free-swinging hook.

**Tidal Waters and Tributaries:** Downstream of Lake Housatonic/Derby Dam

**Trout:**  
**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.  
**Daily limit:** 2

**Common Carp Enhanced Bow and Arrow Fishing Water-** When fishing with bow and arrow  
**Daily Limit:** 12, not more than 3 of which can be greater than 30 inches.

New

### Howells Pond Brook, Hartland



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

### Hurricane Brook, Hartland



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Upstream of the Route 20 crossing.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

### Indian Hole Brook, Shelton



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook.

**Trout:** Catch and Release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

### Jefferson Hill Brook, Litchfield



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

### Jepp Brook, Cheshire-Hamden



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

### Jericho Brook, Watertown-Thomaston



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

### Kent Falls Brook, Kent



**Trout Park:** Within Kent Falls State Park

**Trout:**

**Daily Limit:** 2

New

### Kettletown Brook, Southbury



**Trout Park:** Within Kettletown State Park

**Trout:**

**Daily Limit:** 2

### Latimer Brook, East Lyme



**Sea-Run Trout Stream:** Downstream of I-95 crossing.

**Trout:**

**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.

**Daily limit:** 2

New

### Lievre Brook, Somers



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

### Little River, Oxford



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 3:** Towner Lane downstream to Park Road Crossing.

New

### Lowden Brook, Voluntown



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

### Macedonia Brook, Kent



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Bog Hollow Brook to Route 341 crossing:

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

**Trout Park:** Within Macedonia Brook State Park

**Trout:**

**Daily Limit:** 2

### Mashamoquet Brook, Pomfret



New

**Trout Park:** Within Mashamoquet Brook State Park

**Trout:**

**Daily Limit:** 2

### Mattebesset River, Middletown

**Tidal Waters and Tributaries and Trophy Common Carp Water:** Route 372 crossing downstream to the Connecticut River.

**Trout:**

**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.

**Daily limit:** 2

**Common Carp:** When angling

**Maximum Length:** 26-inches

**Daily limit:** 2 carp

**Common Carp Enhanced Bow and Arrow Fishing Water-** When fishing with bow and arrow  
**Daily Limit:** 12 carp, not more than 3 of which can be greater than 30 inches.

### Merrick Brook, Scotland



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Within Talbot Wildlife Management Area and upstream of the WMA as posted with signs by CT DEEP.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Mianus River, Greenwich-Stamford**



**Seasonal Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** Merriebrook Lane upstream 1 mile to dam.  
**Trout:** September 1 until 6 am on the second Saturday of April, catch and release only. From 6 am second Saturday of April until August 31, 2 trout daily limit.

Gear restricted to single hook flies and single hook artificial lures only regardless of species fished for.

**Mill River, Fairfield**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** The confluence with Canoe Brook, as posted with signs by CT DEEP, downstream to the crossing with the Merritt Parkway.  
**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Year-Round Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** Merritt Parkway crossing downstream to Lake Mohegan (Fairfield).  
**Trout:** Catch and Release year-round.

**Mill River, Hamden includes Axle Shop Pond**



**Seasonal Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** Within Sleeping Giant State Park.  
**Trout:** September 1 until 6 am second Saturday of April, catch and release only. From the second Saturday of April until August 31, 5 trout daily limit.

**Mohawk Pond Outflow, Cornwall**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook  
**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Moosehorn Brook, Granby**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook  
**Trout:** Catch and Release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Moosup River, Plainfield**



**Year-Round Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** Route 14 crossing downstream to the Quinebaug River.  
**Trout:** Catch and release year-round.  
 Gear restricted to fly fishing only within the lower half of this section as posted with signs by the CT DEEP.

**Morgan Brook and Mallory Brook, Barkhamsted**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook  
**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Mott Hill Brook, Glastonbury**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook  
**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Mountain Brook, Granby**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook  
**Trout:** Catch and Release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Mystic River, Groton**

**Tidal Waters and Tributaries:** From the confluence of Haleys Brook and Whitford Brook downstream.  
**Trout:**  
**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round  
**Daily limit:** 2

**Natchaug River, Eastford-Mansfield**



**Trophy Trout Area:** Entire river including the Trout Park within Natchaug State Forest.  
**Trout:**  
**Daily Limit:** 2

## ***Naugatuck River, Torrington-Ansonia***

**ATS**



**Trophy Trout Area:** Entire river from Torrington To Seymour, except from Route 118 (Harwinton/ Litchfield) to the Thomaston Army Corps Dam

**Trout:**

**Daily Limit:** 2

Gear restrictions apply if fishing in the Atlantic Salmon Management Areas from September 1 to March 31. *Gear restricted to a single fly or a lure with a single free-swinging hook at all times.* No additional weight may be added to the line.

Fishing prohibited within 100 feet of thermal refuges from June 15 to September 15 as posted with signs by CT DEEP.

### **Year-Round Catch and Release Trout**

**Management Area:** Route 118 to the Thomaston Army Corps Dam

**Trout:**

Catch and release year-round.

From September 1 to March 31 gear is restricted to a single fly or a lure with a single free-swinging hook. No additional weight may be added to the line.

### **Atlantic Salmon Management Area (upper):**

Route 118 to the Thomaston Army Corps Dam

#### ***Atlantic Salmon:***

September 1 to December 15, catch and release only. December 16 to August 31 daily creel limit of 1 salmon, no minimum length.

Gear restricted to a single fly or a lure with a single free-swinging hook at all times. No additional weight may be added to the line.

### **Atlantic Salmon Management Area (lower):**

Prospect Street (Naugatuck) to Route 42 bridge crossing (Beacon Falls).

#### ***Atlantic Salmon:***

September 1 to December 15, catch and release only. December 16 to August 31, daily creel limit of 1 salmon, no minimum length. Gear for salmon restricted to a single fly or a lure with a single free-swinging hook at all times. No additional weight may be added to the line.

**All other species:** From September 1 to March 31, when fishing in this section, the gear restriction applies.

## ***Naugatuck River continued***

**Tidal Waters and Tributaries:** Downstream of Kinneytown Dam, Seymour

**Trout:**

**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.

**Daily limit:** 2

**Atlantic Salmon:** September 1 to December 15, catch and release only. From December 16 to August 31, daily creel limit of 1, no minimum length. When fishing for Atlantic salmon, in this section, gear is restricted to a single fly or a lure with a single free-swinging hook. No additional weight may be added to the line.

## ***Niantic River, East Lyme-Waterford***

**Tidal Waters and Tributaries:** Downstream of the confluence with Latimer Brook.

**Trout:**

**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round

**Daily limit:** 2

## ***Norwalk River, Norwalk***



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 3:** The entire river within Wilton and Ridgefield that is upstream of Wolf Pit Road (Wilton).

## ***OPT OUT OF LEAD SINKERS***

Lead is a metal, which in sufficient quantities, can negatively affect the nervous and reproductive systems of animals (especially waterfowl and fish eating birds) and humans.

To reduce unintentional lead poisoning of wildlife substitute your lead tackle with sinkers and jigs made from other non-poisonous metals such as tin, bismuth, steel, or tungsten.



Rainbow Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)

### Oil Mill Brook, Waterford

**Sea-Run Trout Stream:** Downstream of I-95 crossing.

**Trout:**

**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round

**Daily limit:** 2

New

### Pease Brook, Lebanon



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Within the Pease Brook Wildlife Management Area.

**Trout:** Catch and Release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

### Pequabuck River, Bristol



**Year-Round Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** King Street downstream to the Route 177 crossing, including a section of Coppermine Brook.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round.

### Pequonnock River, Trumbull



**Trophy Trout Area:** Whitney Avenue Bridge to Daniels Farm Road, includes Trumbull Basin.

**Trout:**

**Daily Limit:** 2

*NOTE: A parking permit is required to park on streets adjacent to the Trumbull Basin and many Trumbull municipal parks. This pass may be acquired free by anglers wishing to fish the waters by visiting the Trumbull Parks and Recreation Department.*

### Pomperaug River, Woodbury-Southbury



**Trophy Trout Area:** The entire river from the confluence of the Nonewaug River and Weekepeemee River downstream to Lake Zoar.

**Trout:**

**Daily Limit:** 2

### Pootatuck River, Newtown



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** From approximately 1/2 mile above and below the confluence with Deep Brook as posted with signs by CT DEEP.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

### Quinnipiac River, Southington-New Haven



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** The entire river in Southington and Cheshire upstream of Cheshire Street. **Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Tidal Waters and Tributaries:** The Route 5 crossing (North Haven) downstream to the New Haven Harbor.

**Trout:**

**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.

**Daily limit:** 2

### Common Carp Enhanced Bow and Arrow

**Fishing Water:** When fishing with bow and arrow **Daily Limit:** 12 carp, not more than 3 of which can be greater than 30 inches.

New

### Railroad Brook, Vernon



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Upstream of the confluence with the Tankerhoosen River, except for Valley Falls Pond, which is a trout park.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

### Roaring Brook, Cheshire-Hamden



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire Brook

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Roaring Brook, Glastonbury**  
Eric C. Schlutz Wild Trout Management Area



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 3:** Route 94 crossing downstream to the Connecticut River.

**Roaring Brook, Stafford-Willington**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 3:** Route 190 crossing to the Willimantic River.

**New**

**Sages Ravine Brook, Salisbury**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire brook.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Salmon Brook, Glastonbury**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 2:** Addison Pond dam downstream to the Connecticut River.

**Trout:**  
**Min. Length:** 12-inches  
**Daily limit:** 2

**Salmon Brook and East Branch Salmon Brook, Granby**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 3:** Route 20 crossing downstream to the Farmington River.



Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*)

**Salmon River, Colchester-East Haddam**



**Seasonal Catch and Release Trout Management Area and Trophy Trout Area:** The confluence of the Blackledge River and Jeremy River to the Route 16 crossing.

**Trout:** September 1 until 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April, catch and release only. From 6:00 am second Saturday of April until August 31, 2 trout daily limit.

Gear restricted to fly fishing only in the middle of this section as posted with signs by the CT DEEP.

**Trophy Trout Area:** Route 16 crossing downstream to the Route 151 crossing.

**Trout:**  
**Daily limit:** 2

**Tidal Waters and Tributaries:** The Route 151 crossing downstream to the Connecticut River

**Trout:**  
**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.  
**Daily limit:** 2

**Trophy Common Carp Water:** Daily creel limit 1 carp, 26-inch maximum length.

**Common Carp Enhanced Bow and Arrow Fishing Water:** When fishing with bow and arrow  
**Daily Limit:** 12 carp, not more than 3 of which can be greater than 30 inches.

**Fish Handling Tips If You Plan to Catch and Release:**

- Limit the amount of time a fish is played while hooked and retrieved.
- Wet your hands prior to handling the fish.
- Unhook quickly by using single barbless hooks whenever possible (replace treble hooks), cut the line if deeply hooked (vs. taking minutes to dig the hook out).
- Never touch the gills (or reach under the gill cover) as damage can cause bleeding and delayed mortality.
- Keep the fish in the water while unhooking (not flopping around in the boat, shore, ice, or pavement).
- Minimize the time spent out of the water when taking photos.



Release tips video

**Saugatuck River, Westport**  
**William "Doc" Skerlick Trout Management Area**

**Seasonal Catch and Release Trout Management Area: The Dorrs Mill Dam downstream to the Merritt Parkway crossing.**  
**Trout:** September 1 until 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April, catch and release only. From 6:00 am second Saturday of April until August 31, 2 trout daily limit.

Gear restricted to fly fishing only.

**Sea-Run Trout Stream:** Downstream of the "Wood Dam" (Westport)  
**Trout:**  
**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round  
**Daily limit:** 2

**New**  
**Spruce Brook and Tributaries, Litchfield**

**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Spruce Brook in Litchfield above the confluence with the Naugatuck River, and Jefferson Hill Brook.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**New**  
**Stony Brook, Montville**

**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** The entire brook within Montville.

**Trout:** Catch and Release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**New**  
**Stratton Brook, Simsbury**

**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Upstream of the confluence with Hop Brook, except for the impoundment within Stratton Brook State Park, which is a trout park.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Shetucket River, Windham-Norwich**

**ATS**     

**Trophy Trout Area:** The entire river upstream of the Greenville Dam (Norwich).  
**Trout:**  
**Daily limit:** 2

**Atlantic Salmon Management Area:** The Scotland Dam to the Occum Dam. **Atlantic Salmon:** September 1 to December 15 Catch and Release only. December 16 to August 31 daily creel limit of 1 salmon, no minimum length. Gear for salmon restricted to a single fly or a lure with a single free-swinging hook at all times. No additional weight may be added to the line.

**All other species:** From September 1 to March 31, when fishing in this section, the gear restriction applies.

**Tidal Waters and Tributaries:** Downstream of the Greenville Dam  
**Trout:**  
**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.  
**Daily limit:** 2

**Common Carp Enhanced Bow and Arrow Fishing Water:** When fishing with bow and arrow  
**Daily Limit:** 12 carp, not more than 3 of which can be greater than 30 inches.

**Tankerhoosen River, Vernon**

**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** The river and its tributaries as posted with signs by CT DEEP within the Belding Wildlife Management Area.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to a artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Tenmile River, Kent-Sherman**

**Year-Round Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** The entire river from the NY/CT state line to the Housatonic River

**Trout:** Catch and Release year-round. **Black Bass (Largemouth and Smallmouth):** Catch and release year-round.

New

**Thames River, Norwich-New London**



**Tidal Waters and Tributaries:** Entire river including coves.

**Trout:**  
**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.  
**Daily limit:** 2

**Common Carp Enhanced Bow and Arrow Fishing Water:** When fishing with bow and arrow  
**Daily Limit:** 12 carp, not more than 3 of which can be greater than 30 inches.

New

**Thorne Brook and Tributaries, Hartland**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Thorne Brook upstream of the West Branch Farmington River, Howells Pond Brook, and all unnamed tributaries to Thorne Brook or Howells Pond Brook.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

**Willow Brook and Tributaries, Cheshire-Hamden**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Willow Brook in Cheshire above Route 10, (ii) Jepp Brook, (iii) Hickory Brook, (iv) Brooksvale Stream, and (v) Roaring Brook.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Wright Brook, Granby**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Entire Brook

**Trout:** Catch and Release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Wachocastinook (Riga) Brook, Salisbury**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** Downstream of South Pond as posted with signs by CT DEEP within MT Riga Corporation Property.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

New

**West Branch Salmon Brook and Tributaries, Granby-Hartland**



**Wild Trout Management Area Class 1:** West Branch Salmon Brook upstream of Broad Hill Road in Granby, Higley Brook, Mountain Brook, Moosehorn Brook, and Wright Brook.

**Trout:** Catch and release year-round. Gear limited to an artificial lure/fly with single barbless hook.

**Yantic River, Bozrah-Norwich**



**Seasonal Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** Barstow Road downstream to the bridge near the intersection with Schwartz Road.

Gear restricted to fly fishing only, regardless of species fished for, in this section as posted with signs by the CT DEEP.

**Trout:** September 1 until 6:00 am on the second Saturday of April, catch and release only. From 6:00 am second Saturday of April until August 31, 2 trout daily limit.

**Tidal Waters and Tributaries:** From the waterfall at Lovers Leap to the Thames River:

**Trout:**  
**Min. Length:** 15-inches, harvest allowed year-round.  
**Daily limit:** 2 carp

**Common Carp Enhanced Bow and Arrow Fishing Water:** When fishing with bow and arrow  
**Daily Limit:** 12 carp, not more than 3 of which can be greater than 30 inches.

**Willimantic River, Willington-Windham Cole Wide Trout Management Area**



**Year-Round Catch and Release Trout Management Area:** The confluence with Roaring Brook (Willington) to the Route 74 crossing.

Gear limited to fly fishing only regardless of species fished for.

## Definitions and Regulatory Terms for Sportfishing in the Inland District

The following are taken from the regulations for sportfishing in the Inland District ([RCSA 26-112-43](#)) found on the Secretary of State web page or from the CT General Statutes ([Title 26 - Fish and Game](#)). They 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](#) is available on the CT DEEP web page.

**\*Indicates a new or modified definition effective January 1, 2026**

**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. Each line may have any combination of hooks, flies or lures, among which not more than three hooks may be baited.

**\*ARTIFICIAL LURE/LURE means any manufactured product, scented or non-scented, made of wood, metal, plastic, glass, leather, cork, fiber, or rubber, except for bait or flies as defined, designed to catch fish by angling or ice fishing.**

**\*BAIT means any animal, bait species as defined in section 26-112-45(d) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, fish eggs, insect or vegetable, or parts thereof, living or dead, except for certain nuisance aquatic invertebrates as provided for in section 26-55-5 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and manufactured scented baits, used with a hook for the purpose of attracting and catching fish. Any fish legally acquired, except black bass (largemouth and smallmouth), Chain Pickerel, Northern Pike, trout, salmon, carp and goldfish may be used as bait, except as provided in section 26-112-48(b) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.**

**BAIT FISHING** means taking or attempting to take bait species, for personal use as bait or food, by use of a bait seine, bait trap, cast net, umbrella net, scoop net or by hand.

**BAIT SEINE** means a seine or net which, for the purpose of this regulation, does not exceed fifteen feet in length and four feet in depth and is used for the taking of bait species.

**BAIT TRAP** means a glass, wire or wooden device which does not exceed twenty inches in length and fifteen inches in diameter and is used for the taking of bait species.

**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. Common Shiner, Golden Shiner, Fallfish, Creek Chub, Spottail Shiner, Blacknose Dace, Longnose Dace, Pearl Dace, Bluntnose Minnow, Fathead Minnow, Cutlips Minnow, Creek Chubsucker, White Sucker, killifish, mummichog, Atlantic & tidewater silverside, sand lance, frogs (except northern leopard frog), crayfish (except rusty crayfish), dragonfly nymphs (perch bugs), hellgrammites, and mayfly nymphs. Invasive species are not legal to use for bait.

The legal methods for taking the bait species listed above are as follows:

- **All inland waters:** During the open season for fishing, the species listed above may also be taken by hand, angling, and scoop net.
- **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. Cast nets may be used for bait in waters designated as "tidal rivers and tributaries".
- **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.

**BARBLESS HOOK OR BARBLESS FISH HOOK**

means a curved, pointed device, without a barb, used to catch fish and includes single, double or treble hooks provided each point is without a barb and hooks manufactured with a barb if the barb has been bent down to the hook, broken off or otherwise made ineffective.

**BLACK BASS** means Smallmouth Bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*) and Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*).

**BOW AND ARROW FISHING** means fishing by use of a compound bow, longbow, recurved bow or crossbow by which an arrow is propelled. Arrows shall 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 shall be part of the possession limit of the individual taking such fish and shall not be released to the waters where taken. Common carp, bowfin, tench, white suckers, American eels and sea lampreys may be taken with a bow and arrow in lakes and ponds as well as in streams and stream sections **not stocked with trout** only during the open season for fishing in those waters. A fishing license is required.

**BOUNDARY WATER** a lake/pond forming a common boundary between CT and another state. Regulations may be for CT, the other state, or a combination thereof. A list is found in RCSA 26-112-46 (a).

**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.

**\*CATCH AND RELEASE** means the practice, when angling or ice fishing, of immediately returning a caught fish, without avoidable injury, to the waters from which taken. **Catch and release fishing for a species or species group is required where the daily creel limit or possession limit is zero for said species or species group, or when an individual has attained their creel limit or possession limit of fish for a species or species group.**

**NOTE:** injured fish may not be taken and must be returned to the water from which taken, if the angler has reached the daily creel limit or possession limit or if fishing during the Catch and Release period for trout, or if fishing in a catch and release only area.

**CAST NET** means a circular or conical net with a round weighted opening that is cast and then retrieved by hand using lines attached to its margins, and is used to take fish or bait species. The use of cast nets to take fish or bait species in the inland district is prohibited, except in waters designated as “tidal waters and tributaries”.

**\*CENTER PIN FISHING - See Fly Fishing**

**CHILDREN’S FISHING AREA** Waters set aside in whole or in part, as indicated by posters, where fishing is restricted to children under sixteen years of age.

**CLOSED SEASON** means that period of time during which fishing for any species of fish, except trout, is prohibited.

**CULLING or HIGH-GRADING** means discarding or returning a previously retained fish to the water in order to retain a more desirable fish of the same species or species group. Culling is prohibited except that an individual fishing for black bass in a fishing tournament or derby that has been permitted by CT DEEP may cull provided said individual has not yet attained their possession limit for black bass.

**\*DAILY CREEL LIMIT** means the quantity or number of fish of a species or species group that can be taken by an individual during the period from 12:01 a.m. to midnight. **In the inland district an individual that has attained their daily creel limit of fish for a species or species group may continue fishing for said fish but is restricted to catch-and-release only for said species and all fish so taken shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the waters from which taken.**

**DOWNRIGGER** A device, supplemental to a fishing line, used to deploy, via an electric or hand powered 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. A hook that is free to rotate or pivot at the point of attachment to an artificial lure shall be considered a “free-swinging 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.

**FISHWAY/FISH LADDER** is an engineered structure built with the purpose of allowing fish free passage past a dam or obstruction. Fishing is not allowed within 250 feet of any fishway or fish ladder.

**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. Additional weight may be built into the fly in its construction, as in a weighted nymph.**

**\*FLY FISHING** angling with the use of a fly reel, fly rod, fly line, leader and a fly or flies. "Tenkara" fishing is considered to be fly-fishing. The use of strike indicators is permitted. Center pin fishing which is angling with the use of a special reel that free spins in each direction and does not have drag, is not considered fly fishing. Center pin fishing attempts to catch fish by drifting a fly or bait.

**\*FREE-SWINGING HOOK - See Fishhook**

**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** means fishing through the ice with tip-ups, bobbers or floats, similar devices or hand-held jigs. When ice fishing, except on some waters, anglers may not use 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 Marine/Inland Demarcation table (see page 6).

**INLINE CIRCLE HOOK** Is a fish hook on or which the point and barb are not offset from the plane of the shank and the bend of such hook, and such point, is perpendicular to such shank.

**LAKES AND PONDS** Are all natural and artificial impounded bodies of water listed by the Secretary of the State as lakes, ponds and reservoirs, and includes their flood waters, including temporary and seasonal pools resulting therefrom and all coves and lagoons contiguous thereto.

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

**MAXIMUM LENGTH** Means the largest total length of a species or species group that can be legally possessed as 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** Means the smallest total length of a species or species group that can be legally possessed as 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.

**PICKEREL** means the Chain Pickerel (*Esox niger*), not the dwarf species referred to variously as the banded pickerel (*Esox americanus*), grass pike, grass pickerel, mud pike or brook pickerel.

**PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES FISHING AREA** Means an area set aside for the exclusive use by persons with physical disabilities when such restriction is indicated by posters.

**\*POSSESSION LIMIT** Means the total number of fish of any species or species group that may be legally possessed by one person, either on the person, on the waters of the inland district, or the shores of such waters, or in any type of vehicle. 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 possession limit. An individual that has attained their possession limit of fish for a species or species group may continue fishing for said fish but is restricted to catch-and-release only for said species and all fish so taken shall be

**immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the waters from which taken. Possession limit in the field shall not exceed the daily creel limit. Any fish in possession shall be intact to the extent that neither the heads nor the tails have been removed but gills and viscera may be removed. Possession limit shall not be construed to restrict the number of legally acquired fish that may be kept in storage in the home or in other storage facilities.**

**PRIVATE WATER** Means a natural or artificial pond or lake to which the owner, not a corporation, partnership or voluntary association, has exclusive right of access, of which water supply all sources are located substantially within the property of the owner, to which fish do not have access from waters not under the control of such owner or from water stocked at the expense of the state, except that a natural or artificial pond five acres or less in extent may be owned by an individual, a corporation, partnership or voluntary association and, when meeting the other requirements of this subsection, such pond may be registered as private waters

**PRIVATELY STOCKED WATER** A waterbody where fishing rights are owned or controlled by a club or association (but not designated as a Private Water). Any association owning or controlling the fishing rights in any stream or pond, the waters of which are stocked with fish by such association at no expense to the state, may request special open and closed seasons, daily creel and season limits, and legal lengths of species taken from such waters by applying for a "Special Fishing Regulation" permit.

**SCOOP NET OR SCAP 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.

**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 for all species of fish and any fish so taken must be released immediately, except that, in tidal waters and tributaries, menhaden, alewives and blueback (glut) herring may be taken by these methods. Anglers are reminded that there currently is a ban on the taking of anadromous alewife and blueback herring.

**SPEARING** The use of any pointed instrument, with or without barbs, propelled solely by hand. Common carp, Bowfin, Tench, American eel, White sucker, and Sea lamprey 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.

**STREAMS** means all rivers, streams, brooks, creeks, and their flood waters, including temporary and seasonal pools resulting therefrom, and all coves, lagoons and canals contiguous thereto, but does not include that portion of impounded bodies of water on rivers, streams, brooks and creeks listed by the Secretary of the State as a lake, pond or reservoir.

**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. "Tenkara" fishing is considered to be fly-fishing.

**TIDAL WATERS AND TRIBUTARIES** include streams or portions thereof where there is a direct connection to Long Island Sound and may be influenced by tidal cycles. A list is provided in RCSA 26-112-46 (m).

**TROUT and SALMON** includes Brook Trout or speckled trout, Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout, Lake Trout, Atlantic salmon, Kokanee (Sockeye salmon), Coho salmon, Chinook salmon or any hybrid of any two or more of these species.

# State Record Freshwater Fish - Harvest

Defined as the largest fish, by weight determined using a certified scale, captured legally in Connecticut waters. For all criteria, rules, and details please visit the [trophy fish award web page](#) or scan this QR code.



Species	Pounds	Ounces	Waterbody	Angler	Year
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	11	Connecticut River, Hartford	Fejzo Akaratic	2022
Brook Trout	9	3	Blackwells Brook, Brooklyn	David Andes	1998
Brown Bullhead	5	7	Hamburg Cove, Lyme	Rowan Lytle	2025
Brown Trout	19	0	West Hill Pond, New Hartford	James M. Lucas II	2014
Brown Trout (sea-run)*	10	8	Saugatuck River, Westport	Ronald J. Merly	2006
Calico Bass	4	0	Pattagansett 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**	58	0.8	Lake Zoar, Monroe	Norbert Samok	2025
Fallfish	2	4	Farmington River, Simsbury	Chad Tessman	2012
Kokanee	2	14	East Twin Lake, Salisbury West Hill Pond, Barkhamsted	Tom Pasko Seth Harris	2011 2018
Lake Trout	29	13	Lake Wononskopomuc, Salisbury	Dr. Thompson	1918
Largemouth Bass	12	14	Mashapaug Lake, Union	Frank Domurat	1961
Northern Pike	29	0	Lake Lillinonah, Brookfield W. Branch Reservoir, Colebrook	Joseph Nett Leslie Slater	1980 2020
Pumpkinseed	1	3	Lake Marie, Windham	Robyn Rogers	1973
Rainbow Trout	14	10	Mansfield Hollow Reservoir, Mansfield	Michael V. Ludlow	1998
Rock Bass	1	3	Shenipsit Lake, Tolland Colebrook Lake, Colebrook	Ernie Gonsalves James Bonan	1989 1995
Smallmouth Bass	7	12	Shenipsit Lake, Tolland	Joseph Mankauskas Jr	1980
Tiger Trout	7	14	Lake Quassapaug, Woodbury	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	5	4	Crystal Lake, Ellington	Zach Stoltenberg	2021
Yellow Perch	2	13	Black Pond, Woodstock	Miller B. Bassett	1973

\*Sea-Run fish must be verified by CT DEEP.

\*\*Common Carp may be released if weighed with a certified scale on site.

# State Record Freshwater Fish - Catch and Release

Defined as the largest fish (by length) either captured legally in Connecticut waters and released alive at the point of capture.

For all criteria, rules, and details please visit the [trophy fish award web page](#) or scan this QR code.

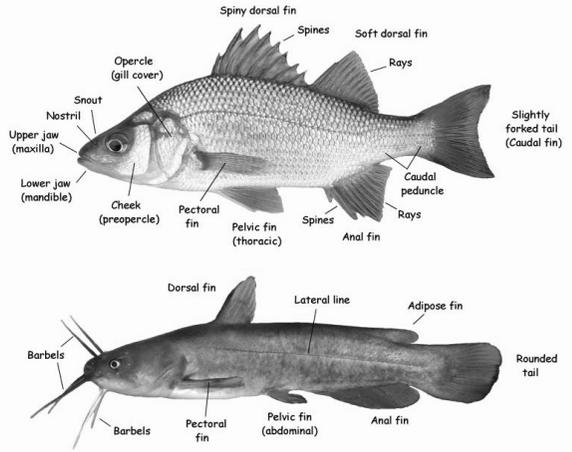


Species	Inches	Waterbody	Angler	Year
American Eel	41.0	Farmington River, Farmington Lake Terramuggus, Marlborough	Daniel Hanscom Daniel E.S. Kornegay III	2024 2011
Bluegill	10.5	Andover Lake, Andover Private Pond, Rocky Hill Private Pond, Killingworth Saugatuck Reservoir, Redding	Gregory Doane Ted Munette Evan Kamoen Jude Lundbye	2015 2015 2018 2023
Bowfin	29	Keeney Cove, Glastonbury	Brandon Powers	2026
Brook Trout	21.25	Natchaug River, Chaplin	Nicholas Burnore	2010
Brown Bullhead	17.5	Saugatuck Reservoir, Redding	Keith Bonenfant	2016
Brown Trout	30	Saugatuck Reservoir, Redding	Liam Sikora	2023
Calico Bass	19	Candlewood Lake, Danbury	Evan Kamoen	2016
Chain Pickerel	33	West Hill Pond, Barkhamsted	Mark R. Popolizio	2013
Channel Catfish	36	Private Pond, Chaplin	Colby Kerttula	2020
Common Carp	44.8	Lake Zoar, Monroe	Norbert Samok	2025
Fallfish	17.5	Lake Zoar, Southbury	Alexander Daignault	2025
Hybrid Sunfish	11.0	Private Pond,	Ryan Szarkowicz	2023
Kokanee	20	East Twin Lake, Salisbury	Timothy E. Kilbride	2010
Lake Trout	32	Coventry Lake, Coventry Crystal Lake, Ellington	Christopher Rinaldi Michael Pio Jr.	2023 2023
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	10	Lake McDonough, Barkhamsted Lake McDonough, Barkhamsted	Ellie Fiorentino Joey Takeman	2012 2014
Rainbow Trout	30	Scoville Reservoir, Wolcott	Michael Thureson	2010
Redbreast Sunfish	10.75	Andover Lake, Andover	Brandon Powers	2022
Rock Bass	13.0	Mill Brook,	Brayden McNeil	2024
Smallmouth Bass	24.25	Farmington River, Windsor	Jacob Long	2018
Tiger Muskie	40.0	Lake Lillinonah, Brookfield	Michael Vaitkus	2022
Tiger Trout	22	Woodbridge Lake, Goshen	Cristian Cifaldi	2018
Walleye	30	Lake Pocotopaug, East Hampton Lake Zoar, Southbury	Daniel E.S. Kornegay III Alexander Daignault	2010 2022
White Catfish	25.5	Salmon River, East Haddam	Shawn Sims	2012
White Perch	15.5	Mill River, Fairfield	Ryan Mozelak	2024
White Sucker	22.5	Squantz Pond, New Fairfield	Thomas Dorman	2024
Yellow Perch	16.25	Lake McDonough, New Hartford	Ron Barbour	2011

# Parts of a Fish

Knowing external anatomy of a fish greatly helps in making the correct identification. Being able to notice differences in overall body shape, fin placement and structure, as well as presence of unique features like barbels, an adipose fin, or fin ray and spines counts will greatly improve your ability to make a correct identification.

The Fisheries Division has a [simple guide to the major families of freshwater fish](#) to help show the major structural features and differences.



## Join the Volunteer DEEP Grass Carp Removal Program - Candlewood Lake and Squantz Pond

The Fisheries Division is working to reduce the number of triploid Grass Carp from Candlewood Lake and Squantz Pond after earlier efforts to control the invasive Eurasian watermilfoil had unintended consequences. The sterile Grass Carp were stocked in 2015 and 2017 to reduce the spread of this invasive plant, however by 2022, coverage of all submerged aquatic vegetation in Candlewood Lake dramatically declined to the point that it was largely absent from the lake. Aquatic vegetation is a critical part of the lake ecosystem that provides habitat for fish, stabilizes sediments, and helps maintain good water quality. With vegetation now severely depleted, DEEP has begun actively removing the carp to speed up lake recovery, having already removed over six hundred fish since 2023. Learn more or sign up here: [DEEP Volunteer Grass Carp Removal Program](#). Please note that this program is only for anglers who have signed on to participate in the DEEP program at Candlewood Lake and Squantz Pond.

## Help people discover the fun of fishing

Become a [Fish with CARE](#) Volunteer Fishing Coach. We're looking for passionate and patient people who love sharing their skills to help new and returning anglers. To get started, contact the "Fish with CARE" staff at 860-663-1656 or by email [DEEP.learntofish@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.learntofish@ct.gov) or scan this QR code below for more information.

