

# COMMONWEALTH INLAND WATERS

(Includes the Youghiogheny River Lake and does not include special regulation areas.)

Species	Seasons	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
 ALL SPECIES OF TROUT AND SALMON  Additional regulations may apply - see Trout Regulations.	<b>Regional Opening Day of Trout Season*</b> - April 2 at 8 a.m. through Sept. 5 (only 18 southeastern PA counties) Regular Season - April 16 at 8 a.m. through Sept. 5	7 inches	5-streams, lakes and ponds (combined species)
	Extended Season: <i>Stocked trout waters and all waters downstream of stocked trout waters.</i> Jan. 1 through Feb. 29 and Sept. 6 through Dec. 31	7 inches	3 (combined species)
	Extended Season: <i>Class A wild trout stream sections.</i> Jan. 1 through Feb. 29 and Sept. 6 through Dec. 31	<b>NO HARVEST - Catch and immediate release only</b> Class A stream listing: <a href="http://www.fishandboat.com/classa.pdf">http://www.fishandboat.com/classa.pdf</a>	
BASS-LAKES Largemouth, Smallmouth and Spotted  Additional regulations may apply.	Jan. 1 through April 15 and Nov. 1 through Dec. 31 April 16 through June 17	15 inches	4 (combined species)
	June 18 through Oct. 31	<b>NO HARVEST - Catch and immediate release only (no tournaments permitted)</b>	6 (combined species)
BASS-RIVERS AND STREAMS Largemouth, Smallmouth and Spotted  Additional regulations may apply.	Jan. 1 through April 15 and Oct. 1 through Dec. 31 April 16 through June 17	15 inches	4 (combined species)
	June 18 through Sept. 30	<b>NO HARVEST - Catch and immediate release only (no tournaments permitted)</b>	6 (combined species)
Muskellunge and Tiger Muskellunge**	Open year-round	40 inches	1 (combined species)
Pickarel**		18 inches	4
Northern Pike**		24 inches	2
Walleye and Saugeye (Hybrids)	Jan. 1 through March 14 and May 7 through Dec. 31	15 inches	6
Sauger	Jan. 1 through March 14 and May 7 through Dec. 31	12 inches	6
American Shad***	Open year-round	No minimum	3
American Shad	Open year-round - Lehigh River, Schuylkill River**** and tributaries	<b>NO HARVEST - Catch and immediate release only</b>	
American Shad River Herring***		<b>CLOSED YEAR-ROUND</b>	<b>Susquehanna River and tributaries</b>
Hickory Shad***		<b>CLOSED YEAR-ROUND</b>	
Herring, Gizzard Shad	Open year-round	No minimum	50 (combined species)
American Eel	Open year-round	9 inches	25
Striped Bass and Striped Bass/White Bass Hybrids	Open year-round	20 inches	2 (combined species)
Sunfish, Yellow Perch, White Perch, Crappies, Catfish, Rock Bass, Suckers, Carp, White Bass, Bowfin and other gamefish not otherwise listed	Open year-round	No minimum	50 (combined species)
Additional regulations may apply - see Pennfish Enhancement Special Regulations. Baitfish/Fishbait***** (except Mudbugs/Includes Crayfish)	Open year-round	No minimum	50 (combined species)
Mudbugs (Dragonfly Nymphs)	Open year-round	No minimum	Unlimited if taken from lakes, ponds, swamps and adjacent areas. 50 per day if taken from moving waters (rivers and streams)
Mussels/Clams		<b>CLOSED YEAR-ROUND</b>	
Paddlefish, Spotted Gar and other threatened and endangered species		<b>CLOSED YEAR-ROUND</b>	

For all crayfish species, the head must be immediately removed behind the eyes upon capture unless used as bait in the water from which taken.

SEASONS, SIZES AND CREEL LIMITS - Except for trout season, which begins at 8 a.m., all regulatory periods in the fishing regulations are based on the calendar day, one of which ends at midnight and the next of which begins immediately thereafter.

\* Includes only those waters in 18 southeastern PA counties and two waters crossing from those counties listed in the Regional Opening Day of Trout Season.

\*\* Except those species in waters listed in the Brood Stock Lakes Program. Tiger Muskellunge is a muskellunge hybrid.

\*\*\* Unlawful to take, catch or kill American Shad, in the Susquehanna River and all its tributaries. River Herring (Alewife and Blueback Herring) has a closed year-round season with zero daily limit applied to Susquehanna River and tributaries, Lehigh River and tributaries, Schuylkill River and tributaries, West Branch Delaware River, Delaware River, Delaware estuary, Delaware River tributaries upstream to the limit of the tidal influence, and Conowingo Reservoir.

\*\*\*\* Lehigh River upstream of the first dam in Easton, Pennsylvania and its tributaries and the Schuylkill River upstream of the I-95 Bridge and its tributaries.

NOTES: It is not a violation of the bass regulations if a bass is immediately returned unharmed to the waters from which it was taken. It is unlawful for an angler to cast repeatedly into a clearly visible bass spawning nest or redd in an effort to catch or take bass.

For bass regulations, power dam pools and recreational dam pools on the Susquehanna River and navigational dam pools on the Ohio River drainage are "rivers." It is unlawful to conduct a fishing tournament on the North Branch, West Branch or main stem of the Susquehanna River that allows a tournament angler to harvest black bass.

Stocked trout waters are closed to fishing from March 1 to the opening day of the regular trout season in April, unless included in the Regional Opening Day of Trout Season or Stocked Trout Waters open to Year-Round Fishing.

Landlocked Alewife taken from inland ponds, lakes or reservoirs that are collected by legal means may be harvested for use as baitfish. It is legal to fish for trout in Class A trout streams year-round, with no harvest beginning the day after Labor Day through the opening day of trout season the following year.

\*\*\*\*\*BAITFISH includes all forms of minnows; suckers, chubs, Fallfish, lampreys; Gizzard Shad; and all forms of darters, killifishes and stonecats (except those listed as threatened or endangered species). Legally taken gamefish may be used as bait. It is unlawful to use or possess goldfish, comets, koi and Common Carp as baitfish while fishing. FISHBAIT includes crayfish, crabs, and the nymphs, larvae and pupae of all insects spending any part of their life cycle in the water.



Pennsylvania's Best Fishing Waters is a program established by the Commission, using the expertise and knowledge of its fisheries biologists, to highlight statewide locations for different categories of fish to assist anglers in knowing the prime fishing hotspots. Confirmed by survey catch rates and the availability of public access, the waters offered as a resource by the Commission are intended to increase anglers' success and provide convenient access to this information. You deserve the best!

[www.PaBestFishing.com](http://www.PaBestFishing.com)



Paddle a Pennsylvania Water Trail!

[www.fishandboat.com/watertrails](http://www.fishandboat.com/watertrails)

For more information about Mentored Youth Fishing Days, Family Fishing Programs & Festivals and other programs, and to purchase fishing licenses, gift vouchers, magazine subscriptions, boat registration renewals, launch permits and more, visit:

[www.GoneFishingPa.com](http://www.GoneFishingPa.com)

In addition to information provided in this guide, check your 2016 Pennsylvania Fishing Summary for more information.



# 2016

Seasons, Sizes and Creel Limits

CATCH THE VALUE!



# FISH PA!

Purchase your fishing license at one of more than 900 issuing agents or online and be ready for the state's two trout openers on April 2 (18 southeastern counties) and April 16 (regular opening day for trout statewide).

To purchase fishing licenses online:  
[www.GoneFishingPa.com](http://www.GoneFishingPa.com)

2016 Mentored Youth Trout Days:  
March 26 (regional) and April 9 (statewide)

Take part in the Commission's Mentored Youth Trout Days. With a free Mentored Youth Permit or the purchase of a Voluntary Youth Fishing License, youth under the age of 16 can join a mentor (adult) angler who has a current fishing license and trout permit to fish on Saturday, March 26 on stocked trout waters within the 18 southeastern county region. Youth and mentors can also fish on stocked trout waters statewide on Saturday, April 9.

Subscribe today!

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## 2016 FISH-FOR-FREE DAYS

Sunday, May 29 & Independence Day, Monday, July 4

These are your "fishing holidays" to enjoy with friends and family! No fishing license is needed to fish on either of these days. Check the Commission's website for events. Remember that all other regulations apply.

WATER POLLUTION? REPORT IT!

PFBC TOLL-FREE HOTLINE

855-FISH-KIL

# BIG BASS WATERS

These special regulations apply to largemouth, smallmouth and spotted bass in the waters listed. Stocked trout waters (lakes) that are

in the Big Bass Waters are closed to all fishing from March 1 until the opening day of the trout season (indicated below by an asterisk). This

closure does not pertain to stocked trout waters (lakes) open to year-round fishing. For all other species, inland regulations apply.

## Waters Governed by These Regulations \* closed to fishing from March 1 until 8 a.m. on opening day of trout

County	Water
Allegheny	Upper, Middle and Lower Deer Lakes*
Allegheny	● Marshall Lake
Allegheny	North Park Lake
Armstrong	Keystone Lake
Beaver	Bradys Run Lake
Berks	Blue Marsh Lake
Berks	Carsonia Lake
Berks	Hopewell Lake
Berks	Kaercher Creek Dam
Bedford	Shawnee Lake (State Park)
Blair	Canoe Creek Lake (State Park) to include two small ponds and raceway adjacent to Canoe Lake
Bucks	Lake Towhee
Bucks	Nockamixon Lake (State Park)
Butler	Lake Arthur (Moraine State Park)
Cambria	Beaverdam Run Reservoir
Cambria	Duman Dam
Cambria	Hinckston Run Reservoir
Cambria	Wilmore Dam

County	Water
Carbon	Mauch Chunk Lake
Chester	Chambers Lake
Chester	Marsh Creek Lake (State Park)
Clarion/Venango	Kahle Lake
Crawford	Sugar Lake
Fayette	Indian Creek Reservoir (Mill Run Reservoir)
Indiana	Yellow Creek Lake (State Park)
Jefferson	Kyle Lake
Lackawanna	Lackawanna Lake (State Park)
Luzerne	Frances Slocum Lake (State Park)
Luzerne	Harris Pond
Luzerne	Lily Lake
Lycoming	Rose Valley Lake
Mercer	Shenango River Lake
Monroe	Bradys Lake
Monroe/Wayne	Gouldsboro Lake
Montour	Lake Chillisquaque
Northampton	Minsi Lake

County	Water
Perry	Little Buffalo Lake (Holman Lake)
Somerset	Lake Somerset
Somerset	Quemahoning Reservoir
Venango	Two Mile Run Reservoir (Justus Lake)
Washington	Cross Creek Lake
Washington	● Peters Twp. Lake (Res. #2)
Westmoreland	Bridgeport Reservoir
Westmoreland	● Indian Lake
Westmoreland	Keystone Lake (State Park)
Westmoreland	Twin Lakes Number One Reservoir (lower)
Westmoreland	Mammoth Dam
Westmoreland	Northmoreland Lake
Westmoreland	Twin Lake Number Two Reservoir (upper)
Wyoming	Stevens Lake
York	Lake Marburg (Codorus State Park)
York	Lake Redman
York	Lake Williams
York	Pinchot Lake (State Park)

## LAKES

Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Jan. 1 through April 15 and June 18 through Dec. 31	15 inches	4 (combined species)
April 16 through June 17	<b>NO HARVEST</b> - Catch and immediate release only (no tournaments permitted)	

● New addition

## STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) are plants and animals that have been introduced into new ecosystems and have environmental, recreational, economic or health impacts. These invaders may damage equipment and compete with native species. Anglers and boaters may unknowingly introduce AIS into new waters. Go to [www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com) for more information.



## CONVENIENT MULTI-YEAR FISHING

Anglers can purchase a license for three years or five years with just one purchase. That's right, no more remembering at the last minute to buy a license before opening day or that weekend fishing opportunity with friends and family. To order and for more information on licenses, including receiving a free subscription to the digital version of *Pennsylvania Angler & Boater* magazine:

[www.GoneFishingPa.com](http://www.GoneFishingPa.com)



## SMALLMOUTH & LARGEMOUTH BASS CATCH & RELEASE

Counties	Waters	Season/Special Regulations
Cumberland, Dauphin, Juniata, Lancaster, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, York	Susquehanna River (98.0 miles) from the inflatable dam near Sunbury downstream to Holtwood Dam, including all tributaries to a point 1/2 mile upstream from the confluence.	From 12:01 a.m. on May 1 through June 18: <b>CLOSED SEASON, NO TOURNAMENTS.</b> During the closed season, it is unlawful to target or attempt to catch a bass. A bass that is accidentally caught during the closed season must be immediately released unharmed without being removed from the water. It is unlawful to possess bass in, on or along these waters. <b>Remainder of the year: NO HARVEST—CATCH AND IMMEDIATE RELEASE ONLY; catch-measure-immediate release tournaments only.</b>
Dauphin, Juniata, Perry	Juniata River (31.7 miles) from SR0075 bridge at Port Royal downstream to the mouth, including all tributaries to a point 1/2 mile upstream from the confluence.	

## WHO MUST WEAR A LIFE JACKET?

- Children 12 years of age and younger on Commonwealth waters when underway on any boat 20 feet or less in length and in all canoes and kayaks.
- On Pittsburgh District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lakes (only), everyone in boats less than 16 feet in length and in all canoes and kayaks.



[www.WearItPennsylvania.com](http://www.WearItPennsylvania.com)

## PENNSYLVANIA FISHING LICENSE BUTTON

These annual buttons are available to all current adult and youth customers who possess a valid Pennsylvania fishing license that enables them to fish for the entire year. Lifetime Senior License and Multi-Year License holders can also purchase the buttons. These buttons are NOT required by law, and they are an optional purchase. The fee is \$5.00 per button. Use of a valid Pennsylvania Fishing License Button meets the fishing license display requirement as long as the angler has a license certificate in their possession.



This new program provides anglers with an opportunity to fish for larger trout in select waters. Approximately 3,200 large trout, measuring between 14 to 20 inches, will be stocked in these waters under the **Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only** special regulation.

### CHESTER COUNTY

Middle Branch White Clay Creek 1.67 miles; from SR 3009 (Good Hope Road) downstream to the confluence with the East Branch

### DAUPHIN COUNTY

Wiconisco Creek 0.74 miles; from the western edge of the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art Walking Bridge downstream to the power line crossing located 1.7 miles upstream from the mouth

### LACKAWANNA/ WYOMING COUNTIES

South Branch Tunkhannock Creek 0.99 miles; from SR 6 downstream through Keystone College campus

### LAWRENCE COUNTY

Neshannock Creek 2.67 miles; from the base of the Mill Dam in Volant downstream to the covered bridge on T-476

### LYCOMING COUNTY

Loyalsock Creek 1.49 miles; from the Lycoming - Sullivan County line downstream to Sandy Bottom

### POTTER COUNTY

First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek 1.67 miles; from mouth of Bailey Run downstream to a bend above Berge Run Bridge

### SOMERSET COUNTY

Laurel Hill Creek 2.33 miles; from 200 yards downstream of the T-364 (Countryman Bridge) downstream to the T-364 Bridge upstream of Laurel Hill Lake

### WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Loyalhanna Creek 1.67 miles; from SR 711 downstream to SR 2045

See the 2016 PA Summary Book for details concerning "Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only" Special Regulations

[www.fishinpa.com](http://www.fishinpa.com)