





DELAWARE RIVER AND ESTUARY (including tributaries to limits of tidal influence)

The following seasons, sizes, and creel daily limits apply to the Delaware River, West Branch Delaware River, and Delaware River tributaries, from the mouths of the tributaries upstream to the limit of the tidal influence and the Lehigh River from its mouth upstream to the first dam in Easton, Pennsylvania. The Delaware River estuary waters are listed at the right. ATTENTION: Non-offset (inline) circle hooks are required when fishing with bait for any species of fish in the Tidal Delaware Estuary including tributaries from the mouths of the tributaries upstream to the limit of the tidal influence. The definition of a non-offset (inline) circle hook is a non-offset hook where the point is pointed perpendicularly back towards the shank. The term 'non-offset' means the point and the barb are in the same plane as the shank.

| Species | Seasons | Minimum Size | Daily Limit |
|--|---|--|-----------------------|
|  | April 2 at 8 a.m. through Oct. 15 | North of I-84: 14 inches | 1 (combined species) |
| | | South of I-84: No minimum | 5 (combined species) |
| | | West Branch Delaware River* 12 inches | 2 (combined species) |
| Bass Largemouth Smallmouth  | Jan. 1 through April 8 and June 11 through Dec. 31 | 12 inches | 5 (combined species) |
| | April 9 through June 10 | NO HARVEST - Catch and immediate release only | |
| Muskellunge and Tiger Muskellunge (Hybrids)  | Open year-round | 40 inches | 1 |
| Northern Pike | Open year-round | 24 inches | 2 |
| Pickereel | Open year-round | 12 inches | 5 |
| Walleye | The portion of the Delaware River between New Jersey and Pennsylvania - open year-round. The portion of the Delaware River between New York and Pennsylvania - Jan. 1 until midnight, March 14 and May 7 until midnight, Dec. 31 | 18 inches | 3 |
| American Shad** | Open year-round | No minimum | 3 |
| American Eel | Open year-round | 9 inches | 25 |
| Striped Bass and Hybrid Striped Bass†  | From the Pennsylvania state line upstream to Calhoun Street Bridge; Jan. 1 through March 31 and June 1 through Dec. 31† | 28 to less than 35 inches† | 1† |
| | April 1 through May 31† | 21 to less than 24 inches† | 2† |
| | From Calhoun Street Bridge upstream - open year-round† | 28 to less than 35 inches† | 1† |
| † It is unlawful to fish with bait for any species of fish in the tidal Delaware Estuary including tributaries from the mouths of the tributaries upstream to the limit of tidal influence using any hook type other than non-offset (inline) circle hooks. The definition of a non-offset (inline) circle hook is a non-offset hook where the point is pointed perpendicularly back towards the shank. The term "non-offset" means the point and the barb are in the same plane as the shank. For more information, consult: www.fishandboat.com/Fish/Fishing/Pages/CircleHooksTidalDelaware.aspx . | | | |
| Baitfish/Fishbait* <small>See page 8 for definitions</small> | Open year-round | No minimum | 50 (combined species) |
| River Herring*** | CLOSED YEAR-ROUND | | |
| Hickory Shad, Sturgeon, and other threatened and endangered species | CLOSED YEAR-ROUND | | |
| Mussels/Clams | CLOSED YEAR-ROUND | | |
| Other Species | Inland seasons, sizes, and creel limits apply except for waters under special regs. | | |

* A special no-kill season with the use of artificial lures only has been established on the West Branch Delaware River (see page 16 for details).
 ** American Shad is catch and release in the Schuylkill River from I-95 upstream including all tributaries and three (3) American Shad in all other Delaware River tributaries, including those above tide.
 *** 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, and Delaware River tributaries upstream to the limit of the tidal influence.
 *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.

WHEN FISHING WITH BAIT FOR ANY SPECIES OF FISH IN THE TIDAL DELAWARE ESTUARY, THE USE OF A NON-OFFSET (INLINE) CIRCLE HOOK IS REQUIRED.



The Delaware River estuary consists of the water areas listed below to their upper tidal limits:

| Water Area | Upper Tidal Limit |
|-------------------|--|
| Chester Creek | Kerlin Street (Chester-city) |
| Crum Creek | U.S. Route 13 (Eddystone) |
| Darby Creek | Pine Street (Darby-borough) |
| Delaware River | From the PA state line upstream to the U.S. Route 1 bridge |
| Frankford Creek | U.S. Route 13 (Frankford Avenue) |
| Marcus Hook Creek | U.S. Route 13 (Marcus Hook-borough) |
| Neshaminy Creek | Hulmeville Falls |
| Pennypack Creek | U.S. Route 13 (Frankford Avenue) |
| Poquessing Creek | State Road |
| Ridley Creek | MacDade Boulevard (Chester-city) |
| Schuylkill River | Fairmount Dam |

Delaware River and Estuary Anglers: Saltwater Angler Registry-see page 12

Delaware River Blue Crabs

Female Blue Crabs bearing eggs or from which the egg pouch or bunion has been removed may not be possessed.

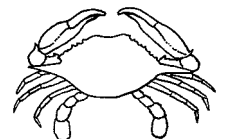
Crab Pots are limited to no more than two pots per person when taking crabs. In addition, two handlines are used.

Unattended Crab Pots must be labeled with the name and address of the owner or user.

Disturbing Unattended Crab Pots is unlawful, except by the owner, user or members of the immediate family, and officers or representatives of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

Horseshoe Crabs are unlawful to sell, offer for sale, or purchase. It is unlawful to import into or transport in this Commonwealth horseshoe crabs for the purpose of sale.

* Measured point to point



Harvesting blue crabs from the Delaware River and its estuary waters is permitted pursuant to the regulations below.

| Season | Minimum Size | Daily Limit |
|-----------------|--|---|
| Open year-round | 4 inches* (hard shell) 3.5 inches* (soft shell) | One (1) bushel (combined - hard shell and soft shell) |