TROUT FISHING REGULATIONS

Stocked Trout Waters
Many streams, lakes, ponds, and reservoirs are officially classified as “stocked trout waters.” This means that these waters contain significant portions that are open to public fishing and are stocked with trout. The waters listed here are open to trout harvest during the “extended season” (see page 10). Unlisted tributary streams (those not included in this list of “stocked trout waters”) are not open to harvest of trout during the “extended season.” Only stocked trout waters are open to harvest during this period. Spearing fish is not permitted in any of these waters at any time of the year.

These waters are closed to all fishing (including taking of minnows) from February 21 to 8 a.m. on the opening day of the trout season. A person shall be deemed to be fishing if he or she has in possession any fishing line, rod, or other device that can be used for fishing while on or in any water or on the banks within 25 feet of any water where fishing is prohibited. Unless geographically designated in the Region Regulated Trout Waters section, the term trout-stocked waters includes the entire stream from headwaters to mouth.

Special note: Although the list was up to date at the time this booklet was printed, it is possible that some streams may later be deleted or added as “stocked trout waters” because of last-minute changes in water quality conditions. Check with the nearest Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission office (see page 3) if there is any question about whether or not a water area is “stocked.”

Stocked Trout Waters Open to Year-Round Fishing
Waters with this designation are considered “stocked trout waters.” From 8 a.m. opening day of trout through Sept. 5, Commonwealth inland sizes and creel limits apply. From Jan. 1 through Feb. 20, and from Sept. 6 through Dec. 31, “extended season” sizes and creel limits apply. These waters are open to fishing from February 21 to opening day of trout season; however, no trout may be taken or possessed on these waters during this period. It is unlawful to fish in rivers and streams designated as stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing without a current trout permit. A trout permit is not required to fish in lakes and ponds that have been designated as stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing unless the person takes, kills, or possesses, while in the act of fishing, a trout on or in these waters.

Find the Regulation that Applies to Where You Want to Fish.
To assist trout anglers in knowing the regulations that apply to locations where they fish, the trout regulations are separated by PFBC Regions. From pages 22 through 33, each region contains a listing of its counties separated by specific trout regulation. An explanation of each regulation and its requirements is on this page and the next page.