



PLAY

Winter
2015

Pennsylvania • League • of • Angling • Youth

Angler's Calendar

There are fishing opportunities in all four seasons. The four seasons of the year are a result of the Earth's position to the sun. While the calendar shows four seasons, the angler's calendar has much more. Often, anglers talk about the season as the time when a particular fish can be kept or harvested. The Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC) establishes and regulates these fishing seasons.

The opening day of trout season is in the spring and is one of the most anticipated days of the year for anglers. The opening day for bass is during the summer, and the opening day for Walleyes, Saugers and saugeyes is between the trout and bass opening days.



Fall provides the opportunity for anglers to try Lake Erie steelhead fishing. Fall is also a great time to fish for crappies and other species of panfish. Some anglers look forward to winter fishing.

This issue is about the angler's calendar and includes information on seasons and regulations.

VOCABULARY *(Watch for the first time these words appear!)*

- **Closed Season** - period of time when fish may not be in possession and must be released unharmed
- **Creel Limit** - the number of fish that an angler may keep in one day during the open season
- **Extended Season** - sections of approved water with a longer fishing period
- **Harvest** - to possess or keep fish, the opposite of catch and release
- **Inland Waters** - bodies of water that are not connected directly to the ocean
- **Juvenile** - young fish that have not yet matured into adults
- **Minimum Size** - specified length of fish required in order to possess and harvest
- **Open Season** - period of time when fish may be in possession and harvested
- **Population** - all fish of a certain species within a water
- **Regional Opening Day** - only waters listed in the Regional Opening Day of Trout Season Program
- **Regulation** - fishing rule passed by the Commission
- **Rulemaking** - the process to create a regulation
- **Spawning** - reproduction of mature fish