# 2025 REGULATIONS=

Regulations in red are new this year.

# **2025 General Trout Fishing Information**

- + Opening day of trout season: Saturday, + April 5, 2025, at 8 a.m.
- To fish for trout or salmon, a valid New Jersey fishing license and trout stamp are both required for residents at least 16 years and less than 70 years of age, plus all non-residents 16 years and older.
- All Brook Trout caught within the "Brook Trout Conservation Zone" must be immediately released unharmed. The zone consists of all waters within the northwest region of the state, where most remaining wild Brook Trout populations occur. The Conservation Zone includes all waters west of I-287 and north of Rt. 202, extending to, but not including, the Delaware River. See map on page 21.
- Waters stocked with trout in the spring are listed below (those with no in-season closures) AND on page 18 (those *with* in-season closures). **Note:** Special regulations may apply on some of these waters, or sections thereof.
- During the three weeks prior to opening day, all ponds, lakes or sections of streams listed are stocked with trout, except Trophy Trout Lakes. These waters are closed to fishing for all species from March 17 to April 5 at 8 a.m. Exceptions: Lake Hopatcong, Mountain Lake, Lake Shenandoah, Lawrence Brook (section from Davidson's Mill Rd. to Farrington Lake dam), Prospertown Lake and Swartswood Lake are open year round to fishing. However, all trout caught during this period (above) must be released immediately. Seasonal and Yearround Trout Conservation Areas and designated Holdover Trout Lakes (see pages 19-21) are also open to fishing, but are catch-and-release only for trout. Fishing is not permitted on Seasonal Trout Conservation Areas from 12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m. on April 5, 2025. Round Valley and Merrill Creek Reservoirs (Trophy Trout Lakes) are open to yearround fishing; trout may be harvested within the regulations as shown on page 21.
- After opening day, trout stocked waters are open to fishing, including the days they are stocked, unless specifically listed with in-season closures (page 18). In-season closures also apply to designated Seasonal Trout Conservation Areas (page 19).
- Only one daily creel limit of trout may be in possession. Once the creel limit is reached, an angler may continue to fish provided any additional trout caught are immediately returned to the water unharmed.
- When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, hand lines or combination thereof may be used. Separate stringers or buckets must be used for each angler's catch.
- Containers in boats may hold only the combined daily creel limit for each legal angler on board.
- NJDEP Fish & Wildlife reserves the right to suspend stocking when emergency conditions prevail.

# **Spring Trout Stocked Waters With No In-Season Fishing Closures**

After opening day, these waters may be fished on the day they are stocked.

Note: All waters listed are stocked with trout preseason (three-week period preceding opening day) except Round Valley and Merrill Creek Reservoirs. The number in parentheses shows the anticipated number of in-season stockings (April 7 through May 23). A zero indicates the water will be stocked only during pre-season. For weekly updates on stocking details, call the **Trout Hotline's recorded message at 609-940-7266**. (Select waters are also stocked in the fall (October) indicated by a """ and winter (November) indicated by a """) Or visit NJFishandWildlife.com where you will also find directions to public-access portions of troutstocked waters.

## **Atlantic County**

Birch Grove Park Ponds—Northfield (3) Hammonton Lake—Town of Hammonton (3) Heritage Pond—Absecon (3)

## **Bergen County**

Dahnert's Lake — Garfield (4)
Hackensack River — Lake Tappan to Harriot Ave., Harrington Park Borough (4)
Hohokus Brook — Parsons Pond Rd., Franklin Lakes Borough to Saddle River (4)
Indian Lake — Little Ferry Borough (4)
Mill Pond (aka Silver Lake) — SUSPENDED
Pascack Brook — Woodcliff Lake dam to Emerson Rd., Harrington Park Borough (4)
Potash Lake — Oakland (3)

# OPENING DAY of TROUT SEASON

April 5, 2025

Saddle River — Lake St. Upper Saddle River to West Century Rd., Fair Lawn (5) Tenakill Brook — Closter Borough, entire length (3) Whites Pond — Waldwick Borough (4)

## **Burlington County**

Crystal Lake—Willingboro Twp. (4) Laurel Pond—Mt. Laurel Twp. (3) Pemberton Lake—Pemberton Twp. (3) Rancocas Creek, Southwest Br.— Mill St. Park to Rt. 70, Medford Twp. (4) Sylvan Lake—Burlington Twp. (3)

#### **Camden County**

Gloucester City Pond—Gloucester (4) Grenloch Lake (see Gloucester County) Haddon Lake—Audubon Borough (0) Oak Pond—Sicklerville, Winslow Twp. (3) Rowands Lake—Clementon Borough (3)

## **Cape May County**

Ponderlodge Pond — Villas, Lower Twp. (4) Tuckahoe Lake—Tuckahoe, Upper Twp. (4)

## **Cumberland County**

Cohansey River—Dam at Seeleys Pond to powerline above Sunset Lake, Upper Deerfield Twp. (4) Giampietro Park Lake—Vineland (0) Mary Elmer Lake—Bridgeton (3) Maurice River—Willow Grove Lake dam to Sherman Ave., Vineland (4) Shaws Mill Pond—Down/Lawrence Twps. (3) South Vineland Park Pond —Vineland (3)

## Essex County

Branch Brook Park Lake—Newark (4) Diamond Mill Pond—Millburn Twp. (3) Rahway River, W/Br.—Campbells Pond to Essex St., Milburn Twp. (3) Verona Lake—Verona Twp. (4)

# **Gloucester County**

Greenwich Lake—Greenwich Twp. (3) Grenloch Lake—Washington Twp. (3) Harrisonville Lake—Pilesgrove/South Harrison Twps. (3) Iona Lake—Franklin Twp. (3) Swedesboro Lake (aka Narraticon Lake)—Borough of Swedesboro (3) Westville Lake—Westville (0)

#### **Hudson County**

North Hudson Park Lake—(aka JJ Braddock Park Lake), North Bergen Twp. (4) West Hudson County Park Pond—Harrison (4)

#### **Hunterdon County**

Alexauken Creek—West Amwell Twp., entire length (2) Amwell Lake—East Amwell Twp. (3) \* Capoolong Creek (aka Cakepoulin Creek)— Franklin Twp., entire length (5) Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal—source to Wilburtha Rd., Ewing Twp. (Mercer) (6) Hakihokake Creek—Little York-Mount Pleasant Rd, Little York, Alexandria Twp. to Delaware River (2) Lockatong Creek—Route 12, Kingwood Twp. to

- Lockatong Creek—Route 12, Kingwood Twp. to Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal (5)
- Mannys Pond—Union Twp. (3)
- Mountain Farm Pond—Lebanon Twp. (3) Mulhockaway Creek—Pattenburg, source to Spruce
- Run Reservoir, Clinton/Union Twps. (5) Neshanic River—confluence of First and Second
- Neshanic Rivers to Rt. 514, Raritan Twp. (2) Nishisakawick Creek — Frenchtown Alexandria

Twp., entire length (2) Rockaway Creek—Readington Twp., entire length (4) Round Valley Reservoir—Clinton Twp. (1) Sidney Brook—Franklin/Union Twps., entire length (1) Spruce Run—Glen Gardner Borough/Lebanon Twp., entire length (5) Stony Brook-(See Mercer Co.) Wickecheoke Creek-Covered Bridge, Rt. 604, Sergeantsville to Delaware River (2)

#### **Mercer County**

- Assunpink Creek—Assunpink Site 5 dam upstream of Rt. 130 to Carnegie Rd., Hamilton Twp. (4) Colonial Lake—Lawrence Twp. (3)
- Delaware-Raritan Canal-Mulberry St., Trenton to Alexander St., Princeton (4)
- Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal—(See Hunterdon Co.) (6)
- Rosedale Lake—Hopewell Twp. (3) 🔊
- Stony Brook—Hopewell Twp., entire length (4)

#### **Middlesex County**

- Ireland Brook-500 ft. upstream of Riva Ave to Farrington Lake, North Brunswick Twp. (2) Lake Papaianni-Edison Twp. (0)
- Lawrence Brook-Dam at Davidson's Mill Pond to 2nd RR bridge (Raritan Railroad) below Main St., Milltown Borough, excluding Farrington Lake from Church Lane to Farrington Dam (4) Manalapan Lake-Monroe Twp. (3)
- Roosevelt Park Pond—Edison Twp. (3)

#### **Monmouth County**

- Echo Lake—Howell Twp. (3)
- Englishtown Mill Pond (aka Weamaconk Lake)— Englishtown Borough (3) Franklin Lake—West Long Branch Borough (3)
- Garvey's Pond—Middletown Twp. (3)
- Hockhockson Brook-Rt. 18, Colts Neck Twp. to Garden State Parkway bridge (northbound), Tinton Falls Borough (5)
- Holmdel Park Pond-Holmdel Twp. (3)
- Mac's Pond—Manasquan Borough (0)
- Mingamahone Brook-Birdsall Rd. to Manasquan River, Howell Twp. (5)
- Mohawk Pond-Red Bank Borough (4)
- Shark River-Rt. 33, Wall Twp., to Remsen Mill Rd., Neptune/Wall Twp. (5)
- Spring Lake—Spring Lake Borough (3) \*
- Topanemus Lake—Freehold Twp. (3) \* Yellow Brook-Heyers Mill Rd. to Muhlenbrink
- Rd., Colts Neck Twp. (2)

#### **Morris County**

- Beaver Brook—Rockaway Twp./Borough, entire length (3)
- Black River—Route 206 Chester, to the posted Black River Fish and Game club property at the lower end of Hacklebarney State Park (6) 🎙
- Burnham Park Ponds (Upper and Lower)-Town of Morristown (4)
- Drakes Brook-Mt. Olive/Roxbury Twps., entire length (3)
- Hibernia Brook—Rockaway Twp., entire length (5) India Brook-Mountainside Ave. to Rt. 24,
- Mendham Borough (5) Lake Hopatcong—Hopatcong/Jefferson/Mt. Arlington/Roxbury (3)
- Lake Musconetcong—Netcong Borough/Roxbury Twp./Stanhope Borough (3)
- Mt. Hope Pond—Rockaway Twp. (3) \*
- Passaic River-Black Brook confluence to Rt. 24, Chatham Borough (4)

Pequannock River—(see Passaic Co.) Pompton River-(see Passaic Co.)

- Russia Brook—Ridge Rd. to Lake Swannanoa, Jefferson Twp. (2)
- Speedwell Lake—Town of Morristown (4) 🦻 Whippany River-Tingley Rd., Morris Twp. to Ridgedale Ave., Town of Morristown (2)

#### **Ocean County**

Lake Shenandoah—Ocean Co. Park, Lakewood Twp. (3) 🏶 Pohatcong Lake—Borough of Tuckerton (4) Prospertown Lake-Jackson Twp. (3)

#### **Passaic Countv**

- Barbour Pond—Woodland Park Borough (3) 🍀 Clinton Reservoir—Newark Watershed, West Milford Twp. (3)
- Green Turtle Lake—Long Pond Ironworks State Park, West Milford Twp. (3)
- Oldham Pond—North Haledon Borough (3) Pequannock River-Rt. 23, Smith Mills to
- Paterson-Hamburg Turnpike, Pompton Lakes/ Riverdale Boroughs (6)
- Pompton River-confluence with Ramapo River to NY Susquehanna R.R. bridge, Wayne Twp. (4)
- Ramapo River—Pompton Lake dam to confluence with Pompton River (4) 💐
- Ringwood Brook—State line to Sally's Pond, Ringwood State Park, Ringwood Borough (5)
- Sheppard Lake—Ringwood State Park, Ringwood Borough (3)

#### Salem County

- Harrisonville Lake—Pilesgrove/South Harrison Twps. (3)
- Maurice River-Willow Grove Lake dam to Sherman Ave., Vineland (4)
- Schadler's Sand Wash Pond—Carneys Point Twp. (3)

#### **Somerset County**

- Lamington River-Rt. 523 (Lamington Rd.) Bedminster Twp. to Raritan River N. Br. (4)
- Middle Brook, E/Br.—Bridgewater/Warren Twps., entire length (2)
- Passaic River-(See Morris Co.)
- Peapack Brook—Peapack-Gladstone Borough, entire length (5)
- Raritan River-confluence of Raritan River N. Br. and S. Br. to Rt. 206, Hillsborough Twp./ Somerville Borough (4)
- Rock Brook—Hillsborough/Montgomery Twps., entire length (1)
- Spooky Brook Park Pond-Franklin Twp. (0)

#### Sussex County

- Alm's House Pond—Frankford Twp. (3)
- Andover Junction Brook—Andover Borough, entire length (2)
- Big Flat Brook, Upper-Sawmill Pond, High Point State Park, Montague Twp. to 100 ft. above Crigger Rd., Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. (4)
- Blue Mountain Lake—Delaware Water Gap Nat'l Recreation Area, Walpack Twp. (3)
- Clove Brook—source to Clove Acres Lake, Wantage Twp. (5)
- Culver's Creek—Frankford Twp., entire length (2)

**General Trout Information** 

Dry Brook-Branchville Borough/Frankford Twp., entire length (3) Franklin Pond Creek-Hamburg Mtn. WMA, Hardyston Twp./Franklin Borough, entire length (5) Glenwood Brook—Glenwood Lake dam to state line (2) Lake Aeroflex—Andover Twp. (3) \* Lake Hopatcong—Hopatcong/Mt Arlington Boroughs, Jefferson/Roxbury Twps. (3) Lake Musconetcong-Netcong/Stanhope Boroughs/ Roxbury Twp. (3) Lake Ocquittunk—Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. (3) Little Flat Brook—Sandyston Twp., entire length (5) Little Swartswood Lake—Hampton Twp. (3) Lubbers Run—Byram Twp., entire length (5) Neldon Brook—Stillwater Twp., entire length (2) Papakating Creek—George Hill Rd., Frankford Twp. to Rt. 565, Lewisburg (2) Papakating Creek, W/Br.-Wantage Twp., entire length (2) Pond Brook-Stillwater Twp., entire length (5) Sawmill Pond—High Point State Park, Montague Twp. (3) Silver Lake—Hamburg Mountain WMA, Hardyston Twp. (0) 🍀 Stony Lake—Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. (3) Swartswood Lake—Stillwater Twp. (3) Wallkill River—Lake Mohawk Dam to Route 23, Hardyston Twp. (4-5) Wawayanda Creek—Vernon Twp., entire length (5) Wawayanda Lake—Vernon Twp. (3)

#### Union County

- Green Brook-Rt. 527, Berkeley Heights Twp. to Rt. 22, Scotch Plains Twp. (2) Lower Echo Lake—Mountainside Borough (3) 🦻 Milton Lake—Rahway (4) Nomahegan Park Lake—Cranford Twp. (4) Passaic River-(See Morris Co.) Rahway River—I-78 bridge, Springfield to Lawrence St. (Route 514), Rahway (4) Seeleys Pond—Berkeley Heights Twp. (3) Warinanco Park Lake—Roselle Borough (0) Warren County
- Beaver Brook-Silver Lake Dam to Pequest River, White Twp. (4)
- Blair Creek—Bass Lake dam, Hardwick Twp. to Blair Lake, Blairstown Twp. (2)
- Blair Lake—Blairstown Twp. (3)
- Brookaloo Swamp—Hope Twp., entire length (2)
- Buckhorn Creek—Harmony Twp., entire length (2)
- Furnace Brook—Oxford Twp., entire length (2) Furnace Lake—Oxford Twp. (3) \*
- Honey Run-Knowlton-Hope township line to
- Beaver Brook, Hope Twp. (2)
- Jacksonburg Creek—Blairstown Twp., entire length (2)
- Lopatcong Creek-Rt. 519 Harmony Twp., to South Main St., Phillipsburg (5)
- Merrill Creek Reservoir—Harmony Twp. (1)
- Mountain Lake—Liberty Twp. (0)
- Pohatcong Creek—source to Rt. 31,
- Washington Twp. (2)
- Pophandusing Creek—White Twp., entire length (2) White Lake—Hardwick Twp. (3)

# 2025 REGULATIONS -

Regulations in red are new this year.

# **General Trout Fishing Regulations**

## BROOK, BROWN & RAINBOW TROUT (and their hybrids and strains)

\*ALL BROOK TROUT CAUGHT WITHIN THE BROOK TROUT CONSERVATION ZONE MUST BE IMMEDIATELY RELEASED UNHARMED. The Conservation Zone includes all waters west of I-287 and north of Rt. 202, extending to, but not including the Delaware River.

Season	Minimum Size Daily Limit		Exceptions		
January 1–March 16	9 inches	4*	<ol> <li>Special regulation areas (Catch and Release Areas, Year-Round and Seasonal Trout Conservation Areas, Trophy and Holdover Trout Lakes and Wild Trout Streams).</li> </ol>		
March 17–April 5 at 8 a.m.		n trout stocked waters. trout in all other waters.	<ol><li>On lakes Hopatcong, Mountain, Prospertown, Shenandoah, Swartswood and the section of Lawrence Brook from Davidson's Mill Road bridge to the Church Lane</li></ol>		
April 5 at 8 a.m.–May 31	9 inches	6*	bridge, fishing is permitted during the period March 17–April 5 at 8 a.m. All trout caught during this period must immediately be released.		
June 1-Dec. 31	9 inches	4*	3. Greenwood Lake and Delaware River—see separate regulations for boundary waters, pages 26-28.		

# Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring In-season Stocking Dates

After opening day, these waters are closed to fishing from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on their designated stocking dates. Closures apply to all tributaries for 100 feet from the main channel. \*All Brook Trout caught within the BROOK TROUT CONSERVATION ZONE must be released. There are no closures for ANY waters in the fall. These waters are also stocked in the fall.

Trout Stocking Hotline at a NEW number: 609-940-7266.

Stocking Dates	Waterbody	County	Location			
	Manasquan River	Monmouth	Rt. 9 bridge, Howell Twp. downstream to Allenwood-Lakewood Rd. (Rt. 21), Wall Twp.			
	Metedeconk River, N/Br.	Ocean	Aldrich Rd. to Ridge Ave., Howell/Lakewood Twps.			
<b>MONDAYS</b> April 7, 14, 21, 28	Metedeconk River, S/Br.	Ocean	Bennetts Mills dam to twin wooden foot bridge, opposite Lake Park Blvd. on South Lake Dr. Lakewood Twp.			
May 5, 12, 19	Rockaway River**	Morris	Longwood Lake dam, Jefferson Twp. to Boonton Reservoir (aka Jersey City Res.), Boon			
	Toms River	Ocean	Rt. 528, Jackson Twp., to confluence with Maple Root Branch, and Rt. 70 to Rt. 571, Toms River/Manchester Twps. (Exception: the section regulated as a Year Rour Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)			
TUESDAYS	Pohatcong Creek**	Warren	Rt. 31, Washington Twp. to Delaware River			
April 8, 15, 22, 29 May 6, 13, 20	Raritan River, S/Br.**	Morris, Somerset, Hunterdon	Mill dam located 200 feet upstream from Schooleys Mountain Rd. (Rt. 517), Long Valley to junction with Raritan River N/Br. (Exception: the section regulated as Catch and Release.)			
WEDNESDAYS April 9, 16, 23, 30 May 7, 14, 21	Raritan River, N/Br.**	Somerset	Peapack Rd. bridge in Far Hills Borough/Bedminster Twp. to junction with Raritan River S. B			
THURSDAYS April 10, 17, 24	Paulinskill River, and E/Br. and W/Br.**	Sussex, Warren	Limecrest RR spur bridge on E/Br., Sparta Twp., and Warbasse Jct. Rd. (Rt. 663) on W/Br., Lafayette Twp., to confluence with the Delaware River.			
May 1, 8, 15, 22	Ramapo River**	Bergen	State line to Pompton Lake, Oakland (excluding Potash Lake)			
	Big Flat/Flat Brook**	Sussex	100 ft. above Crigger Rd., Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. to Delaware River (Exception: the section regulated as Catch and Release.)			
FRIDAYS	Musconetcong River**	Sussex, Morris, Warren and Hunterdon	Lake Hopatcong dam to Delaware River including all main stem impoundments except for Lake Musconetcong (Exception: the section regulated as a Year Round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)			
April 11, 18, 25 May 2, 9, 16, 23	Pequest River**	Warren and Sussex	Pequest Rd., Green Twp. to Delaware River (Exception: the section regulated as a Seasonal Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)			
	Wanaque River**	Passaic	Greenwood Lake dam, West Milford, Twp. to Wanaque Reservoir dam, Wanaque Borough and from Wanaque Ave., Pompton Lakes Borough to Pequannock River, excluding the Wanaque and Monksville reservoirs.			

\*\* These streams are wholly or partially located within the Brook Trout Conservation Zone.

# Boundary Waters (see page 26)

Locations	Species	Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Delaware River	All trout species	April 12 at 8 a.m.–Oct. 15 (Trout caught at other times must be released immediately.)	No minimum	5

Regulations in red are new this year.

# Trout-Stocked Streams - Wild Brown Trout Managed

\*ALL BROOK TROUT CAUGHT WITHIN BROOK TROUT CONSERVATION ZONE MUST BE IMMEDIATELY RELEASED UNHARMED.

Waterbody	Season	Species	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Hakihohake Creek** - Little York-Mount Pleasant Rd., Little York		Rainbow and Brook Trout*	9 inches	4 combined
Alexandria Twp. to Delaware R.	Jan. 1–March 16	Brown Trout	12 inches	Only 2 of which may be Brown Trout
Lopatcong Creek** - Rt. 519, Harmony Twp., Warren to Delaware R.	March 17–April 5 at 8 a.m.	_	Fishir	g prohibited
Pophandusing Creek** - White Twp., entire length				01
Raritan River S/Br.** - Mill dam located 200 feet above Schooley's		Rainbow and Brook Trout*	9 inches	6 combined
Mountain Rd. (Rt 517), Long Valley (Hunterdon), downstream to Lake Solitude dam, excluding Ken Lockwood Gorge (Catch and Release Only)	April 5 at 8 a.m.–May 31	Brown Trout	12 inches	Only 2 of which may be Brown Trout
Saddle River - Lake Street, Upper Saddle River Twp., to West Century Rd.,	June 1–Dec. 31	Rainbow and Brook Trout*	9 inches	4 combined Only 2 of which may
Fairlawn/Paramus Boroughs		Brown Trout	12 inches	be Brown Trout

\*\* These streams are wholly or partially located within the Brook Trout Conservation Zone.

# **Trout Conservation Areas (TCAs)**

\*ALL BROOK TROUT CAUGHT WITHIN BROOK TROUT CONSERVATION ZONE MUST BE IMMEDIATELY RELEASED UNHARMED.

YEAR ROUND TCAs				
Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Restrictions (in effect year round)	
Jan. 1–March 16	15 inches	1	1. Only artificial lures and flies may be used.	
March 17–April 5 at 8 a.m.			<ol> <li>Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited.</li> <li>Fishing is allowed during the apping in account allower subjects and the the river. All tract</li> </ol>	
April 5 at 8 a.m.–Dec. 31	15 inches	1 (see #3 at right)	<ol><li>Fishing is allowed during the spring in-season closures, which apply to the river. All trout caught during these periods must be released immediately.</li></ol>	
Year Round 1	CA Waterbody (County	()	Driving Directions *	
Musconetcong River**—Point I Penwell Rd. bridge downstream to (approx. 1.2 miles)			Rt. 31 to Rt. 57 E. Upper boundary: turn right on Penwell Rd. Lower boundary: turn right on Point Mountain Rd. Parking areas located near each bridge.	
<b>Toms River</b> (Ocean) End of Riverwood Park (Tom's Rive (approx. 1 mile)	er Twp.) downstream to	Rt. 571 bridge	Rt. 195 (Exit 21) to Rts. 527/528 S. (Cedar Swamp Rd./ Veterans Hwy.) to Rt. 527 S. (Whitesville Rd.) to Riverwood Dr. to entrance of Riverview Park.	
SEASONAL TCAs				
Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	Restrictions	
Jan. 1–March 16	15 inches	1		
March 17–April 4	Catch and	release only	<ol> <li>Only artificial lures may be used.</li> <li>Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or</li> </ol>	
April 5 (12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m.)	Fishing (	prohibited	synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3. Pequest River — fishing is not permitted during the first six in-season stocking closure	
April 5 at 8 a.m.–May 18 Gear restrictions do not apply	9 inches	6	dates. (See Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring Stocking Dates, page 18). Fishing is permitted during the last in-season stocking closure date (May 25), but all trout caught between 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. must be immediately released.	
May 19-Dec. 31	15 inches	1		
Seasonal TCA Waterbody (County)			Driving Directions *	
<b>Pequannock River**</b> (Morris/Passaic) Railroad trestle below Appelt Park, Bloomingdale, downstream to Hamburg Turnpike bridge, Pompton Lakes (approx. 1.3 miles)			I-287 (Exit 53). Proceed west on (Paterson) Hamburg Turnpike 0.34 miles. Right on Brant Lr Railroad trestle below Appelt Park is the upstream boundary.	
Pequest River** (Warren) Conrail Railroad bridge, located up Road, downstream to Rt. 625 (Peo			Rt. 31 to Rt. 46 E, approx. 4 mi. to Pequest Trout Hatchery; paved parking lot.	
** These streams are wholly or pa	and the second subscripts		7	

\*\* These streams are wholly or partially located within the Brook Trout Conservation Zone.

# 2025 REGULATIONS =

Regulations in **red** are new this year.

### **Catch and Release Areas**

Season	Minimum Size Daily Limit	Restrictions
Jan. 1–Dec. 31 Fishing allowed year-round	Catch and release all trout	<ol> <li>All trout must be released immediately and unharmed. A person may not have any trout in their possession.</li> <li>Only artificial lures and flies may be used.</li> <li>Barbless hooks only, with no more than a <b>total</b> of three hook points.</li> <li>Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited.</li> <li>Fishing is allowed during the spring in-season stocking closures, which apply to the rivers.</li> </ol>
Catch and Release Waterbody (County)		Driving Directions
Big Elat / Elat Brook (Sussey)		

#### Big Flat / Flat Brook (Sussex)

Rt. 206 bridge downstream to the Roy Bridge on Mountain Rd., a distance of 4.2 miles, including the portion known as the Blewett Tract.

Section of S. Br. within the Ken Lockwood Gorge

Wildlife Management Area (approx. 2.2 miles).

Upper boundary: Rt. 206 bridge, approx. 1.6 miles north of entrance to Stokes State Forest (Coursen Road). Lower boundary: Rt. 206 north, app. 1 mile past Stokes State Forest entrance, turn left on Rt. 560. At Layton bear left on Bevans Rd. (Rt. 640) towards Walpack. Continue south 3.4 miles (NPS Rd 615), left onto Fish and Wildlife Rd. to Roy Bridge.

Raritan S/Br.--Ken Lockwood Gorge (Hunterdon) Ken Lockwood Gorge — Road in gorge is closed to through traffic. Route 31 to Rt. 513. Upper boundary: Turn right at Hoffman's Crossing Rd., take first right after bridge. Lower boundary: Turn right onto Silverthorne-Cokesbury Rd., turn left after crossing river. Park only in designated areas.

# Wild Trout Streams

NATIVE BROO	K TROUT STREAMS (Brook	Trout Dominant)		
Species	Minimum Size	Season	Daily Limit	Gear
Brook Trout	Catch & Release	April 5 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15	2 Brown or	Fishing allowed year-round
Rainbow Trout	No min. size	Catch and Release at all	Rainbow Trout	Artificials only, with no more than 3 hook points in total, all barbless
Brown Trout	No min. size	other times, year-round	combined	Possession or use of bait, or synthetic bait with bait scent prohibited
<ul> <li>Bear Swamp</li> <li>Hickory Run (</li> <li>Lake Ames Tri</li> </ul>	Brook (Mahwah Twp.) • Ran (Lebanon Twp.) dan abo	nrose Brook (Harding Twp.) itan River S/Br. (Budd Lake n to dam approx. 400 feet ve Flanders-Drakestown Rd., Olive Twp.)	Park, C • Rocky • Steph	art Brook (Hacklebarney State Chester Twp.)       • Stony Brook (Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp.)         rRun (Lebanon Twp.)       • Trout Brook (Hacklebarney State Park, Chester Twp.)         ensburg Brook ington Twp.)       • Park, Chester Twp.)
WILD TROUT	STREAMS (Multiple wild tro	ut species present)		
Species	Minimum Size	Season	Daily Limit	Gear
Brook Trout Rainbow Trout Brown Trout	Catch & Release in Zone 9" 9"	April 5 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15 Catch and Release at all other times, year-round	2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined	<ul> <li>Fishing allowed year-round</li> <li>Artificials only, with no more than 3 hook points in total, all barbless</li> <li>Possession or use of bait, or synthetic bait with bait scent prohibited</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Dismal Brook</li> <li>Dunnfield Cressing</li> <li>State Forest)</li> <li>Flanders Brook</li> <li>India Brook (s Rd., Mendham</li> </ul>	: (Mendham Twp.) Bek (Worthington bk (Mt. Olive Twp.) Source to Mountainside 1 Twp.) Rat 400 Rock (Bernardsville Twp.)	Igewood Brook (Roxbury Twp.) nerson Brook (also known as zog Brook) (Tewksbury Twp.) rrill Creek (Merrill Creek Reserv n to Pohatcong Ck., Stewartsville 'itan River S/Br. [dam approx. ) feet above Flanders-Drakestov to dam 200 ft above Schooleys I. Rd. (Rt. 517), Long Valley]	• Teeter Twp./L voir • Turkey e) • Van Ca upper vn Del. W	<ul> <li>Brook (Washington Twp. Morris)</li> <li>trown Brook (Washington Lebanon Twp.)</li> <li>y Brook (Mt. Olive Twp.)</li> <li>ampens Brook (source to waterfall in Van Campens Glen, ater Gap Nat. Rec. Area)</li> <li>West Brook (source downstream to Windbeam Club property, Ringwood Twp.)</li> <li>Whippany River (source to Tingley Rd., Mendham Twp.)</li> <li>Willhoughby Brook (also known as Buffalo Hollow Bk.) (Lebanon Twp.)</li> </ul>
			-	wild trout species may be present)
Species	Minimum Size	Season	Daily Limit	Gear
Brook Trout	Catch & Release in Zone*	April 5 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15	2 Brown or	Fishing allowed year-round
Rainbow Trout	9"	Catch and Release at all	Rainbow Trout combined	Artificials only, with no more than 3 hook points in total, all barbless
Brown Trout	12"	other times, year-round		Possession or use of bait, or synthetic bait with bait scent prohibited
Clinton Twp.) Park		<b>:kson Brook</b> (source to Hedden k Lake Mine Hill Twp.) <b>I Brook</b> (Randolph Twp.)	at Smo	<ul> <li>Van Campens Brook (upper waterfall in Van Campens Glen, located approx. 0.8 miles upstream of Old Mine Road, to Delugare Daiwer Del Water Con-</li> </ul>

Burnett Brook (Chester/ Mendham Twp.)

- Cold Brook (Tewksbury Twp.)
- Hakihokake Creek (also known as Little York Bk. — source to Little York-Mount Pleasant Rd, Little York)

Pequannock River (Oak Ridge Rd. ٠ (Newark Watershed) to railroad bridge immediately upstream of

Passaic River (source to Rt. 202,

Bernardsville Twp.)

Kinnelon Twp.) • Rockaway Creek N/Br. (Tewksbury Twp.)

- Saddle River\* (state line to Lake St., Upper Saddle River Borough)
- Spring Mills Brook (Holland Twp.)

to Delaware River, Del. Water Gap Nat. Rec. Area) Wanaque River (Wanaque Reservoir dam downstream to Wanaque Ave., Pompton Lakes Borough)

\* Saddle River is outside the Brook Trout Conservation Zone therefore a 9 inch limit for brook trout applies. and a daily limit of 2 trout in total (Brook, Brown, and Rainbow Trout combined).

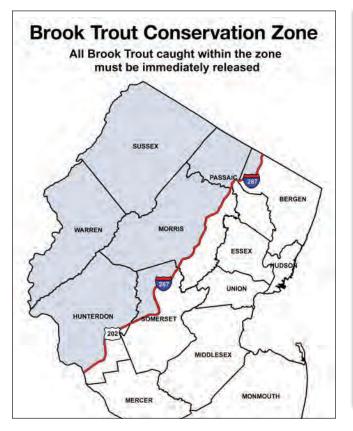
# **Trout Fishing**

# = 2025 REGULATIONS =

# **Trout Lakes**

Waterbody (County)	Species	Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	
	Brown & Rainbow Trout (and their hybrids) and Landlocked Atlantic Salmon	Open year round	15 inches	2 combined	
Merrill Creek Reservoir (Warren)		Jan. 1–Sept. 15	15 inches	2	
(warren)	Lake Trout	Sept. 16–Nov. 30 Catch and release only			
		Dec. 1–Dec. 31	15 inches	2	
Round Valley Reservoir	Brown & Rainbow Trout (and their hybrids)	Open year round	15 inches	2 combined	
		Jan. 1–Sept. 15	15 to less than 24 inches AND greater than or equal to 24 inches	6 AND 1	
(Hunterdon)	Lake Trout	Sept. 16-Nov. 30	Catch and release only		
		Dec. 1-Dec. 31	15 to less than 24 inches AND greater than or equal to 24 inches	6 AND 1	
LDOVER TROUT LAKES					
Waterbody (County)	Species	Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit	
Clinton Reservoir (Passaic)		Jan. 1–March 16	9 inches	2	
Lake Aeroflex* (Sussex)	Brown & Rainbow Trout	March 17–April 5 at 8 a.m.	Catch and release only		
Lake Wawayanda* (Sussex)	and their hybrids	April 5 at 8 a.m.–May 31	9 inches	4	
		June 1–Dec. 31	9 inches	2	
Sheppard Lake (Passaic)		Jan. 1–March 16	12 inches	2	
Tilcon Lake* (Morris)	Landlocked Atlantic Salmon	March 17–April 5 at 8 a.m.	Catch and release o	nly	
White Lake (Warren)		April 5 at 8 a.m.–Dec. 31	12 inches	2	

\* Stocked with salmon



# NJ's Freshwater Fishing Explorer App

NJDEP Fish & Wildlife's new Freshwater Fishing Explorer App combines the Great Fishing Close to Home App, the Trout Waters Map and the brand new Fishing Regulations App in one place!



The Trout Stocked Waters tab provides the stocking dates and number of trout stocked for all trout stocked waters in our spring trout stocking program. Clicking on a water feature within the map will pull up the stocking schedule, the number of fish to be stocked and closures.

The Great Fishing Close to Home tab allows users to explore the great diversity of fishing opportunities New Jersey has to offer.

Coming soon... Try our NEW Fishing Regulations App. Click on each waterbody to determine the exact fishing regulations for that water!





Find it at NJFishandWildlife.com/freshwaterfishing/