

2004 Seasons, Sizes and Creel Limits

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 	Regular Season - April 17 at 8 a.m. through Sept. 6	7 inches	5 - Streams, lakes & ponds (combined species)
	Extended Season: Streams listed as approved trout waters and all waters downstream of streams listed as approved trout waters plus lakes and ponds, Jan. 1 through Feb. 29 and Sept. 7 through Dec. 31	7 inches	3 (combined species)
BASS-LAKES Largemouth, Smallmouth and Spotted	Jan. 1 through April 16 and Nov. 1 through Dec. 31	15 inches	4 (combined species)
	April 17 through June 11	NO HARVEST - Catch and immediate release only (no tournaments permitted)	
	June 12 through Oct. 31	12 inches	6 (combined species)
BASS-RIVERS AND STREAMS Largemouth, Smallmouth and Spotted	Jan. 1 through April 16 and Oct. 1 through Dec. 31	15 inches	4 (combined species)
	April 17 through June 11	NO HARVEST - Catch and immediate release only (no tournaments permitted)	
	June 12 through Sept. 30	12 inches	6 (combined species)
Muskellunge and Muskellunge Hybrids	Jan. 1 through March 14 and May 1 through Dec. 31	30 inches	2 (combined species)
Pickeral*		15 inches	6
Pike-Northern and Amur		24 inches	2 (combined species)
Walleye and Hybrids (Saugeye)		15 inches	6
Sauger		12 inches	6
American Shad **	Open year-round	No minimum	6
American Shad **	Open year-round - Lehigh River and tributaries	No minimum	1
American Shad, Alewife, Blueback Herring	CLOSED YEAR-ROUND Susquehanna River and tributaries		
Hickory Shad **	CLOSED YEAR-ROUND		
Herring, Gizzard Shad **	Open year-round	No minimum	50 (combined species)
American Eel	Open year-round	8 inches	50
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 and other gamefish not otherwise listed	Open year-round 	No minimum	50 (combined species)
Baitfish/Fishbait (except mudbugs)	Open year-round	No minimum	50 (combined species)
American Eel (as baitfish)	Open year-round	6 to 8 inches	50
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)
Paddlefish	CLOSED YEAR-ROUND		

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.

* During the period from January 1 through March 14 and December 1 through December 31, the daily limit of pickeral is three.

** Unlawful to take, catch or kill American shad, hickory shad (endangered species), alewife and blueback herring (collectively known as river herring) in the Susquehanna River and all its tributaries.

NOTE: 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.

NOTE: 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."

NOTE: Approved trout waters are closed to fishing from March 1 to the opening day of the regular trout season in April, unless included in the Select Trout-Stocked Lake Program.

NOTE: Landlocked alewife less than 8 inches in length taken from inland ponds, lakes or reservoirs that are collected by legal means may be harvested for use as baitfish.