

FISHING

	ALL DATES INCLUSIVE	Daily Creel	Length ¹
TROUT ²			
lakes, ponds, major rivers ^{3, 5, 6}	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	3	—
Housatonic River ⁴	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	1	20"
all other rivers and brooks	Apr. 1 - Sep. 10	8	—
	Sep. 11 - Mar. 31, 2010	3	—
LAKE TROUT			
	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31		
Wachusett Reservoir ⁶	"	3	—
Quabbin ⁶	"	2	18"
SALMON (landlocked)	"	2	15"
SALMON (broodstock) ⁷	"	2	15"
AMERICAN SHAD	"	6	—
CHAIN PICKEREL	"	5	15"
BLACK BASS (Largemouth and Smallmouth, singly or combined):	"	5	12"
NORTHERN PIKE	"	1	28"
TIGER MUSKIE	"	1	28"
WALLEYE	"	5	14"
SMELT ⁸			
	Jan. 1 - Feb. 28	—	—
	May 16 - Dec. 31	—	—
ALL OTHER FRESHWATER SPECIES	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	—	—

STRIPED BASS and HERRING: For season, size, and possession limits call the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520, or visit their website at www.mass.gov/dfwele/dmf.

POSSESSION OF: Sturgeon (all species), American Brook Lamprey, Atlantic (sea-run) Salmon⁷, Bridle Shiner, Burbot, Eastern Silvery Minnow, Lake Chub, Longnose Sucker, and Northern Redbelly Dace IS ILLEGAL! If caught **RELEASE IMMEDIATELY**. This means remove hook or cut line and return fish to water IMMEDIATELY: Do not pose for photographs, place on a stringer, hold in a net, or delay in any way the immediate return and release of the fish to the water!

¹ **Minimum length** is measured as the straight line (not curved over the body) from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail. The tips of any forked tail may be squeezed together for the final measurement.

² **Trout** applies to Brook, Brown, Rainbow, and Tiger (a cross between a female brown and a male brook trout). From Apr. 1 to Sep. 10, no more than 8 trout (as defined) may be taken daily, and only 3 of those trout may be from lakes, ponds, or major rivers³. From Sep. 11 to Mar. 31, no more than 3 trout (as defined) may be taken daily.

³ **Major Rivers:** Childs, Coonamessett, Deerfield, Farmington, Green (Colrain), Green (Great Barrington), Ipswich, Jones, Mashpee, Millers, Nissitissit, North (Colrain), North (West Branch), Parker, Quaboag, Quinapoxet, Quinebaug, Seven Mile, Santuit, Scorton Creek, Shawsheen, Squannacook, Stillwater (Sterling, Princeton), Swift (East Branch), Swift (Winsor Dam to Ware River, except as posted), Tully (East and West Branches), Ware, Ware (East Branch), Westfield (all branches).

⁴ **Mainstem Housatonic only**, from the confluence of the East and West Branches to the MA-CT line, **exclusive** of the catch-and-release areas where **no** trout may be kept.

⁵ **Special brown trout water:** South Pond (Quacumquasit), Brookfield. Total daily creel is 3 trout but **only 1** may be a brown trout and it must be at least 15".

⁶ **Quabbin and Wachusett Reservoirs:** Opening and closing dates are set by the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Visit www.mass.gov/dcr/waterSupply.htm; or for Quabbin Reservoir call (413) 323-7221. For Wachusett/Sudbury Reservoirs call (508) 835-4816 or (978) 365-3800. The use of lead fishing sinkers is prohibited in the Quabbin and Wachusett reservoirs (see page 7).

⁷ **The harvest of broodstock salmon** (Atlantic salmon) is lawful in all inland waters of Massachusetts except in: the Connecticut River and all its tributaries; and the Merrimack River downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA and all its tributaries downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA. The possession of an Atlantic salmon (including broodstock salmon) while fishing in the Connecticut River and all its tributaries and in the Merrimack River downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA and all its tributaries downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA is prohibited.

⁸ **Smelt** may be taken by hook and line only.

For Boat Registration Information
phone: (617) 626-1610.