

Madison County

Hot Springs: Spring Creek (N.C. 209 bridge at Hot Springs city limits to iron bridge at end of Andrews Avenue) [Delayed Harvest Trout Waters regulations apply]

McDowell County

Old Fort: Mill Creek (U.S. 70 bridge to the I-40 bridge) [Delayed Harvest Trout Waters regulations apply]

Mitchell County

Bakersville: Cane Creek (N.C. 226 bridge to S.R. 1189 bridge) [Delayed Harvest Trout Waters regulations apply]

Spruce Pine: North Toe River (U.S. 19E bridge to N.C. 226 bridge) [Delayed Harvest Trout Waters regulations apply]

Yancey County

Burnsville: South Toe River (property boundaries of the Yancey County Toe River Campground) [Hatchery Supported Trout Waters regulations apply]

Trout Fishing on Game Lands

- All waters on the game lands listed below are Public Mountain Trout Waters and are classified as Wild Trout Waters, except as noted:
 - Cold Mountain Game Land in Haywood Co.
 - Dupont State Forest Game Land in Henderson and Transylvania counties, except Little River from 100 yards downstream of Hooker Falls downstream to the Dupont State Forest boundary, Lake Imaging, Lake Dense, Lake Alfred, Lake Julia, and Fawn Lake.
 - Green River Game Land in Henderson and Polk counties, excluding Green River downstream of the natural gas pipeline crossing.
 - Nantahala National Forest Game Land in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Swain and Transylvania counties, except Cheoah River downstream of Santeetlah Reservoir and Cherokee Lake.
 - Pisgah National Forest Game Land in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Transylvania and Yancey counties, except Grogan Creek, North Fork Catawba River downstream of the mouth of Armstrong Creek, Big Laurel Creek downstream from the U.S. 25-70 bridge to the French Broad River, Mill Ridge Pond, Nolichucky River, Pigeon River downstream of Waterville Reservoir to the Tennessee state line, and Spring Creek below USFS Road 223.
 - Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe Co.
 - **Rendezvous Mountain State Forest Game Land in Wilkes Co.**
 - South Mountains Game Land in Cleveland and Rutherford counties.
 - Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe Co.
 - Thurmond Chatham Game Land in Wilkes Co.
 - Toxaway Game Land in Transylvania Co.

Trout Fishing on the Blue Ridge Parkway Angling opportunities on the Blue Ridge Parkway are managed by the National Park Service which establishes fishing regulations for parkway waters. The Wildlife Resources Commission aides with management by stocking catchable-size trout into the following waters:

County	Water
Alleghany	Brush Creek
Alleghany	Big Pine Creek
Alleghany	Meadow Fork
Avery	Linville River
Buncombe	Swannanoa River
Watauga	Price Lake

Specific fishing regulations are displayed on signs located near fishing access points, and all persons age 16 or older must possess a valid North Carolina or Virginia fishing license to fish parkway waters. In addition, the parkway provides wild and catch-and-release trout fishing, as well as, angling for bass and sunfish.

For more information on fishing in parkway waters, contact: Blue Ridge Parkway, 199 Hemphill Knob Road, Asheville, NC 28803. Telephone: 828-271-4779, or at their website: <http://www.nps.gov/blri/parkmgmt/lawsandpolicies.htm>.

Trout Fishing on North Carolina State Parks Fishing in waters within a state park is limited to park operating hours. Additional park information may be obtained at ncparks.gov or by contacting the following park offices:

- South Mountains State Park 828-433-4772
- Stone Mountain State Park 336-957-8185
- Gorges State Park 828-966-9099

NONGAME FISH

Any fish not classified as a game fish is considered a nongame fish when found in inland fishing waters and includes shellfish and crustaceans.

Manner of Taking Nongame Fish

- Nongame fish may be taken by hook and line or by grabbing; no fish may be taken by snagging. Special devices may be used to take nongame fish with proper licenses (see “Special Fishing Devices,” page 30) in those counties and waters with open seasons (see “Seasons and Waters” pages 31–35).
- Nongame fishes may be taken year-round with archery equipment (see page 42) under any license that authorizes basic hunting or inland fishing privileges in waterfowl impoundments located entirely on game lands and in all inland fishing waters other than the impounded waters on the Sandhills Game Land, Public Mountain Trout Waters, and reservoirs with restrictions on taking grass carp listed on page 29.
- For special rules governing trotlines, see “Trotlines, Set-hooks and Jug-hooks” (page 18).
- Crab pots may not be used in inland fishing waters or in designated waterfowl impoundments located on game lands, except that persons owning property adjacent to the inland fishing waters of coastal rivers and their tributaries may set two crab pots attached to their property and a special device license is not required.
- Blue crabs may be taken recreationally with a single line with multiple baits without hooks (see restrictions under “Taking Nongame Fish, Crustaceans, and Mollusks for Bait or Personal Consumption” below).

Hook-and-Line Regulations for Nongame Fish

- * Season: Year-round
- * Minimum size limit: None
- * Daily creel limit: None

The following exceptions apply:

- The daily creel limit on channel, white and blue catfish (forked-tail catfish) is six fish in all game lands ponds and in the following waters:

Alamance	Cedarrock Park Pond
Alexander	Ellendale Community Center Pond
Buncombe	Azalea Park Pond
	Charles Owen Park Pond
	Lake Julian
	Lake Tomahawk
Cabarrus	Frank Liske Park Pond
	TN Spencer Park Pond

Cumberland	Lake Rim*
Edgecombe	Etheridge Pond* Indian Lake Newbold Pond*
Forsyth	CG Hill Memorial Park Pond Kernersville Lake Village Point Lake Winston Park Pond*
Gaston	Dallas Park Pond George Poston Park Pond
Granville	Lake Devin
Guilford	Bur-Mill Park Ponds Country Park Pond Hagan Stone Park Ponds Keeley Park Ponds Oka T Hester Pond
Lee	San-Lee Park Ponds
Lenoir	Neuseway Nature Center Pond
Mecklenburg	Freedom Park Pond* Hornet's Nest Park Pond McAlpine Lake Robbins Park Ponds Squirrel Lake
Moore	Lake Luke Marion
Orange	Anderson Community Park Pond Lake Michael
Pitt	River Park North Ponds
Polk	Laughter Pond
Richmond	Ellerbe Community Lake Hamlet City Lake Hinson Lake
Rowan	Dan Nicholas Park Pond Salisbury Community Park Lake
Stanly	Albemarle City Lake
Surry	Big Elkin Creek Tumbling Rock Reservoir
Union	Dogwood Park Pond
Wake	Bass Lake Bond Park Pond Harris Lake County Park Pond Pine Lake in Apex Community Park Lake Raleigh* Shelley Lake
Yadkin	Simpkins Pond in Lake Wheeler Park Yadkin County Park Pond

*Use of gasoline engines to power boats is prohibited.

- In Lake Tillery, Lake Wylie, Mountain Island Reservoir, Lake Norman and Badin Lake the daily creel limit for blue catfish greater than 32 inches in length is one.
- There is no open season for sturgeon. Any sturgeon caught must be immediately released.
- No more than 25 American eel, none of which may be less than nine inches in length, may be taken or possessed, regardless of origin, while boating on or fishing in inland fishing waters.
- Blue crabs taken by hook and line from inland fishing waters or in designated waterfowl impoundments located on game lands must have a minimum carapace width of five inches (point to point). The daily limit is 50 crabs per person or 100 per vessel per day.
- No herring (alewife and blueback) greater than six inches in length may be taken or possessed, regardless of origin, while

boating on or fishing in inland fishing waters of coastal rivers and their tributaries up to the first impoundment of the main course on the river (listed below), the Lumber River including Drowning Creek, and in all other inland fishing waters east of Interstate 95.

- Roanoke River – Roanoke Rapids Dam
- Tar River – Rocky Mount Mill Dam
- Neuse River – Milburnie Dam
- Cape Fear River – Buckhorn Dam
- Waccamaw River – Lake Waccamaw Dam
- Pee-Dee River – Blewett Falls Dam
- Grass carp may not be possessed on Lake James, Lookout Shoals Lake, Lake Norman, Mountain Island Reservoir, Lake Wylie, and John H. Kerr Reservoir, except that one fish per day may be taken and possessed with archery equipment (see page 42).
- Grass carp may not be possessed or taken with archery equipment (see page 42) on Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Reservoir except for scientific study by permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission (S.L. 2009-261).
- Seasons and size and creel limits for gray trout are the same as those recreational limits established by Division of Marine Fisheries in adjacent joint and coastal fishing waters. For current limits, see portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/recreational-fishing-size-and-bag-limits or call 252-726-7021 or 800-682-2632.
- In Public Mountain Trout Waters, the season shall be the same as the trout-fishing season.
- Information and regulations about fishing on game lands are listed on page 22.

Sale of Nongame Fish

- Nongame fish caught on hook and line, grabbling and by special fishing devices may be sold, subject to the following restrictions:
 1. Bowfin may not be sold.
 2. Blueback herring and alewife taken by any method in inland waters may not be sold, except for those fish less than six inches in length that are taken from Kerr Reservoir (Granville, Vance, and Warren counties).
 3. American eel less than nine inches in length taken from inland fishing waters may not be possessed or sold.
 4. In Lake Tillery, Lake Wylie, Mountain Island Reservoir, Lake Norman and Badin Lake the daily possession limit for blue catfish greater than 32 inches in length is one.
 5. Blue crabs taken from inland fishing waters with a line containing multiple baits may not be sold.
 6. Seasons and size and creel limits for gray trout are the same as those recreational limits established by Division of Marine Fisheries in adjacent joint and coastal fishing waters. For current limits, see portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/recreational-fishing-size-and-bag-limits or call 252-726-7021 or 800-682-2632.
 7. Those listed under “Miscellaneous Prohibitions” on page 35.
 8. A special fishing device license is required when taking nongame fish with special fishing devices and also subject to restrictions listed under “Special Fishing Devices,” on page 30, “Seasons and Waters” on pages 31–35, and “Fishing on Game Lands” on page 22.
- The sale of commercially raised nongame fish is regulated by the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Taking Freshwater Mussels

- Freshwater mussels, including the Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*), may only be taken from impounded waters, except mussels shall not be taken in Lake Waccamaw and in University Lake (Orange County).

- The daily possession limit for freshwater mussels is 200 in the aggregate, except there is no daily possession limit for the Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*).

Special Fishing Devices

- Special fishing devices, which may be licensed for the taking of nongame fishes, include the following: archery equipment (see page 42), seines, cast nets, gill nets, dip nets, bow nets, reels, gigs, spear guns, baskets, fish pots, eel pots, traps (excluding crab traps and automobile tires), and hand-crank electrofishers where authorized by local law.
- **Special fishing devices may only be used in waters having designated seasons.** See list (by county) under “Seasons and Waters” on pages 31–35.
- Hand-crank electrofishers are any manually operated device capable of generating a low-voltage electrical current, not to exceed 300 volts, for the taking of catfish.

Term and Use of Special Device Licenses

- The license is valid during a license year (12 months from date of purchase).
- Each user of a special device must have his own license in possession, except that a bow net or dip net may be used by another person who has the owner’s license in his possession.
- Only the principal owner or operator must be licensed when drag seines are used at inland beaches to take mullet.
- Dip nets may be used in conjunction with a licensed hand-crank electrofisher where authorized by local law to take nongame fish for bait or personal consumption in inland fishing waters with any valid license that provides basic inland fishing privileges.
- Nongame fishes may be taken with archery equipment (see page 42) under any license that authorizes basic hunting or fishing privileges.

Netting Restrictions

- Stationary nets must not exceed 100 yards in length and must be spaced at least 50 yards apart.
- “Attendance” requires that a fisherman be within 100 yards of his net at all times.
- Stationary nets must run parallel to the nearest shoreline.
- Anchored, fixed or drift gill nets must be marked at each end with two separate yellow buoys, which shall be of solid foam or other solid buoyant material no less than five inches in their smallest dimension. Buoys on each of the nets shall be marked (by engraving buoys or attaching engraved metal or plastic tags) with one of the following: owner’s N.C. vessel registration number, owner’s U.S. vessel documentation name or owner’s last name and initials.
- No wires or ropes associated with a special fishing device may extend across any navigable watercourse.

Fish-Trap Restrictions

- A fish trap may be no more than 60 inches in length and no more than 30 inches in depth or width.
- No lead nets, wing nets or other devices may be attached to the trap nor used within 25 feet of the trap.
- Such devices, when set and left unattended, shall be affixed with a card or tag furnished by the license-holder and upon which his name and address shall be legibly inscribed.

Eel Pot Restrictions

- It is unlawful to use eel pots with mesh sizes smaller than one-half inch by one-half inch.
- Each eel pot must be marked by attaching a floating buoy, which shall be of solid foam or other solid buoyant material and no less than five inches in diameter and no less than five inches in length. Buoys may be of any color except yellow. The owner shall always be identified on the attached buoy by using

engraved buoys or by engraved metal or plastic tags attached to the buoy. Such identification shall include one of the following: owner’s N.C. vessel registration number, owner’s U.S. vessel documentation name, or owner’s last name and initials.

Taking Nongame Fish, Crustaceans, and Mollusks for Bait or Personal Consumption

- Nongame fishes, crustaceans (crayfish and blue crabs), and mollusks taken for bait or personal consumption may not be sold.
- Nongame fishes, crustaceans, and mollusks may be taken for bait or personal consumption only with the equipment listed below, and any valid license that provides basic inland fishing privileges is only required. (See regulations for taking and sale of nongame fish on pages 28–29 and other nongame regulations on page 42 for more information).
 1. A dip net not greater than six feet across.
 2. A seine not greater than 12 feet in length with a bar mesh measure of not more than 1/4 inch, except in Lake Waccamaw any length seine may be used to collect bait fishes.
 3. A cast net.
 4. A bow net in those counties and waters with open seasons (see “Seasons and Waters” pages 31-35).
 5. Dip nets used in conjunction with a licensed hand-crank electrofisher where authorized by local law.
 6. Minnow traps under immediate control and attendance of the operator and not exceeding 12 inches in diameter, with funnel openings not exceeding one inch in diameter.
 7. A gig except in Public Mountain Trout Waters.
 8. Traps (no more than three) in those counties and waters with open seasons (see “Seasons and Waters” pages 31-35).
 9. Eel pots (no more than two).
 10. A spear gun in those counties and waters with open seasons (see “Seasons and Waters” page 30-34).
 11. Hand-held lines with single baits attached to each.
 12. A single, multiple bait line for taking crabs not to exceed 100 feet in length that is under the immediate control and attendance of the user and is limited to one line per person and no more than one line per vessel. The line is required to be marked on each end with a solid float no less than five inches in diameter and bearing legible and indelible identification of the user’s name and address.
 13. A collapsible crab trap with the largest opening not greater than 18 inches and which, by design, collapses at all times when in the water, except when being retrieved or lowered to the bottom.
- The daily creel limit is 200 nongame fish, crayfish, and mollusks, in combination, subject to the following restrictions:
 1. No more than 25 American eel, none of which may be less than nine inches in length, may be taken or possessed, regardless of origin, while boating on or fishing in inland fishing waters.
 2. No herring (alewife and blueback) greater than six inches in length may be taken or possessed, regardless of origin, while boating on or fishing in inland fishing waters of coastal rivers and their tributaries up to the first impoundment dam on the main course of the river, the Lumber River including Drowning Creek, and all other inland fishing waters east of Interstate 95.
 3. No more than 50 crabs per person, per day or 100 per vessel, per day with a minimum carapace width of five inches (point to point) from inland fishing waters or in designated waterfowl impoundments located on game lands.

4. In Lake Tillery, Lake Wylie, Mountain Island Reservoir, Lake Norman and Badin Lake the daily creel limit for blue catfish greater than 32 inches in length is one.
 5. Seasons and size and creel limits for gray trout are the same as those recreational limits established by Division of Marine Fisheries in adjacent joint and coastal fishing waters. For current limits, see portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/recreational-fishing-size-and-bag-limits or call 252-726-7021 or 800-682-2632.
- Any fish taken for bait purposes are included in the daily possession limit for that species (where such a limit is specified).
 - Nongame fish may not be taken for bait from Bear Creek and Rocky River, Chatham County; Fork Creek, Randolph County; Deep River below Coleridge Dam, Randolph County; and those portions of Deep River in Moore, Chatham and Lee counties.
 - Game fish incidentally taken with nets or traps, while capturing bait, must not be harmed and must be released immediately.

Seasons and Waters

- There is no open season for sturgeon. Any sturgeon caught must be immediately released.
- No river herring greater than six inches in length may be taken or possessed, regardless of origin, while boating on or fishing in inland fishing waters of coastal rivers and their tributaries, up to the first impoundment of the main course of the river (listed on page 29), the Lumber River, including Drowning Creek, and all other inland fishing waters east of Interstate 95.
- Nongame fish may be taken year-round with archery equipment (see page 42) in waterfowl impoundments located entirely on game lands and in all inland fishing waters other than the impounded waters on the Sandhills Game Land, Public Mountain Trout Waters, and reservoirs with restrictions on taking grass carp listed on page 29.
- No special fishing devices, including crab pots, may be used in designated waterfowl impoundments located on game lands. Exception: Nongame fish may be taken year-round with archery equipment (see page 42) from waterfowl impoundments located entirely on game lands other than the impounded waters on the Sandhills Game Land.
- Seasons and waters, in which use of special devices other than archery equipment (see page 42) is authorized, are indicated by the following counties:

Alamance: July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in Alamance Creek below N.C. 49 bridge and Haw River. July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters.

Alexander: July 1 – June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters; and with spear guns in Lake Hickory and Lookout Shoals Reservoir.

Alleghany: July 1 – June 30 with gigs in New River, except Public Mountain Trout Waters.

Anson: July 1 – June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters. March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in Pee Dee River below Blewett Falls Dam. July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in all running public waters, except Pee Dee River from Blewett Falls Dam downstream to the Seaboard Coastline Railroad trestle.

Ashe: July 1 – June 30 with gigs in New River (both forks), except Public Mountain Trout Waters.

Beaufort: July 1 – June 30 with traps in the Pungo River and in the Tar-Pamlico River above Norfolk and Southern Railroad bridge; and with gigs in all inland public waters. March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters.

Bertie: July 1 – June 30 with traps in Broad Creek (tributary of Roanoke River). March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, excluding public lakes, ponds and other impounded waters.

Bladen: March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in Black River; July 1 – March 1 with hand-crank electrofishers in Cape Fear River between Locks and Dams 1 and 3 and Black River (local law), except that hand-crank electrofishing is prohibited within 800 feet downstream and 400 yards upstream of Lock and Dam 1; 400 yards downstream and upstream of Lock and Dam 2; and 400 yards downstream of Lock and Dam 3.

Brunswick: March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in Alligator Creek, Hoods Creek, Indian Creek, Orton Creek below Orton Pond, Rices Creek, Sturgeon Creek and Town Creek.

Buncombe: July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Public Mountain Trout Waters.

Burke: July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in all running public waters, except Johns River and Public Mountain Trout Waters. July 1 – June 30 with traps, gigs and spear guns in all public waters, except Public Mountain Trout Waters and Lake James. Fishing by use of an unattended float is prohibited on Lake James (local law).

Cabarrus: July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in all running public waters. July 1 – June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters.

Caldwell: July 1 – June 30 with traps, gigs and spear guns in all public waters, except Public Mountain Trout Waters.

Camden: July 1 – June 30 with traps in all inland public waters. March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, excluding public lakes, ponds and other impounded waters.

Carteret: March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except South River and the tributaries of the White Oak River.

Caswell: July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters. July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in all running public waters, except Moons Creek. July 1 – June 30 with traps in Hycro Reservoir.

Catawba: July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in all running public waters, except Catawba River below Lookout Dam. July 1 – June 30 with traps, spear guns and gigs in all public waters.

Chatham: Dec. 1 – April 15 with dip and gill nets in the Cape Fear River, Haw River, Deep River and Rocky River (local law). July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in the Cape Fear River and Haw River. July 1 – June 30 with traps in Deep River; and with gigs in all public waters.

Cherokee: July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Public Mountain Trout Waters.

Chowan: March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, excluding public lakes, ponds and other impounded waters. July 1 – June 30 with traps in all inland public waters, excluding public lakes, ponds and other impounded waters.

Clay: July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Public Mountain Trout Waters.

Cleveland: July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in all running public waters. July 1 – June 30 with gigs, traps and spear guns in all public waters.

Columbus: Dec. 1 – March 1 with gigs in all inland public waters, except Lake Waccamaw and its tributaries. March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in Livingston Creek. July 1 – March 1 with hand-crank electrofishers in Waccamaw and Lumber rivers (local law).

Craven: July 1 – June 30 with traps in the main run of the Trent and Neuse rivers. March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except Pitch Kettle, Grindle, Slocum (downstream from the U.S. 70 bridge), Spring and Hancock creeks and their tributaries; and with seines in the Neuse River.

Currituck: July 1 – June 30 with traps in Tulls Creek and Northwest River. March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, excluding public lakes, ponds and other impounded waters.

Dare: July 1 – June 30 with traps in Mashoes Creek, Milltail Creek, East Lake and South Lake. March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, excluding public lakes, ponds and other impounded waters.

Davidson: July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in all running public waters. July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters; and with traps in all public waters except Leonard’s Creek, Abbott’s Creek below Lake Thom-A-Lex Dam and the Abbott’s Creek arm of High Rock Lake upstream from the N.C. 8 bridge.

Dave: July 1 – June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters. July 1 – Aug. 31 for taking only carp and suckers with seines in Dutchman’s Creek from U.S. 601 to Yadkin River and in Hunting Creek from S.R. 1338 to South Yadkin River.

Duplin: Dec. 1 – June 5 with seines in the main run of the Northeast Cape Fear River downstream from a point one mile above Serecta Bridge. March 1-April 30 with bow nets in the main run of the Northeast Cape Fear River downstream from a point one mile above Serecta Bridge.

Durham: July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in Neuse River. July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters.

Edgecombe: March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in all public waters.

Forsyth: July 1 – June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters, except traps may not be used in Belews Creek Reservoir.

Franklin: July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in Tar River. July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Parrish, Laurel Mill, Jackson, Clifton, Moore’s and Perry’s ponds, and in the Franklinton city ponds.

Gaston: July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in all running public waters. July 1 – June 30 with gigs, traps and spear guns in all public waters.

Gates: March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, excluding public lakes, ponds and other impounded waters.

Graham: July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Public Mountain Trout Waters. Special devices are not permitted on Santeetlah Lake, Fontana Lake, Cheoah Reservoir and Calderwood Reservoir (local law).

Granville: July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Kerr Reservoir. July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in the Tar River below U.S. 158 bridge. July 1 – June 30 with dip and cast nets in Kerr Reservoir.

Greene: March 1 – April 30 with bow nets and reels in Contentnea Creek.

Guilford: July 1 – Aug. 31 with seines in Haw River, Deep River below Jamestown Dam and Reedy Fork Creek below U.S. 29 bridge. July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters.

Halifax: March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in Beech Swamp, Clarks Canal, Conoconnara Swamp, Fishing Creek below the Fishing Creek Mill Dam, Kehukee Swamp, Looking Glass Gut, Quankey Creek and White’s Mill Pond Run. April 1 – June 15 in Fishing Creek on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, shad and herring (not to exceed 6 inches in length) may be taken with skim or gill nets having a bar mesh of not less than 1.5 inch (local law).

Harnett: Jan. 1 – May 31 with gigs in Cape Fear River and tributaries. March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in Cape Fear River.

Haywood: July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Lake Junaluska and Public Mountain Trout Waters.

Henderson: July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Public Mountain Trout Waters.

Hertford: July 1 – June 30 with traps in Wiccacon Creek. March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, excluding public lakes, ponds and other impounded waters.

Hyde: July 1 – June 30 with traps in all inland waters. March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, excluding public lakes, ponds and other impounded waters.

Iredell: July 1 – June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters; and with spear guns in Lookout Shoals Reservoir and Lake Norman.

Jackson: July 1 – June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Public Mountain Trout Waters.

Johnston: March 1 – April 30 with bow nets in Black Creek, Little River, Middle Creek, Mill Creek, Neuse River and Swift Creek.

(continued on page 34)



AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

CLEAN AND DRY ANYTHING THAT COMES INTO CONTACT WITH WATER

Invasive aquatic plants, such as hydrilla and giant salvinia; exotic mussels, such as zebra and quagga mussels; and even algae, like didymo or rock snot, can hitch a ride on fishing and boating gear. Once established, they cause extensive damage to aquatic systems.

We need your help to prevent the spread of nuisance species.

When you leave a body of water:

- Remove any visible mud, plants, fish or animals before transporting equipment.
- Eliminate water from equipment before transporting.
- Clean and dry anything that comes into contact with water (boats, trailers, equipment, clothing, dogs, etc.).
- Never release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.

For more information, including recommendations for cleaning anything that comes into contact with water, visit:

www.ProtectYourWaters.net

FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

Elevated levels of some pollutants may be found in certain fish caught by the public or sold commercially in the United States. For more information, contact N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services at 919-707-5900 or see epi.publichealth.nc.gov and click on “Fish Consumption Advisories.” The following table lists current fish consumption advisories for North Carolina inland fishing waters:

<i>Body of Water</i>	<i>Advisory</i>	<i>Pollutant</i>
Statewide	Largemouth bass. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women, nursing mothers and children under 15. No more than one meal per week for all other people.	Mercury
Statewide	Bluegill sunfish and trout. No more than two meals per week for women of childbearing age, pregnant women, nursing mothers and children under 15. No more than four meals per week for all other people.	Mercury
South and east of Interstate 85	Blackfish (bowfin), Catfish (caught wild), Jack fish (chain pickerel), Warmouth, and Yellow perch. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women, nursing mothers and children under 15. No more than one meal per week for all other people.	Mercury
South and east of Interstate 95	Black crappie. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women, nursing mothers and children under 15. No more than one meal per week for all other people.	Mercury
Albemarle Sound from Bull Bay to Harvey Point west to the mouths of the Roanoke and Chowan rivers (Currituck, Camden, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Chowan, Bertie, Washington and Tyrrell counties)	Carp and catfish. No consumption by women of childbearing age or children. No more than one meal per month for all other people.	Dioxins
Roanoke River from U.S. Hwy. 17 bridge near Williamston to the mouth of Albemarle Sound (Martin, Bertie and Washington counties)	Carp and catfish. No consumption by women of childbearing age or children. No more than one meal per month for all other people.	Dioxins
Welch Creek (Martin, Beaufort and Washington counties)	Carp and catfish. No consumption by women of childbearing age or children. No more than one meal per month for all other people.	Dioxins
Brier Creek Reservoir (Wake County), Brier Creek –downstream of Brier Creek Reservoir, and Little Brier Creek and tributaries downstream of Brier Creek Parkway	All fish. No consumption.	PCBs
Lake Crabtree (Wake County)	Carp and catfish. No consumption. All other fish. No more than one meal per month.	PCBs
Crabtree Creek (Wake County) above and below Lake Crabtree to Neuse River	Carp, catfish and largemouth bass. No more than one meal per month.	PCBs
Neuse River (Wake County) downstream of Crabtree Creek to Auburn-Knightdale Road	Carp and catfish. No more than one meal per month.	PCBs
Walnut Creek (Wake County) and Rocky Branch tributary just upstream of confluence with Neuse River	Carp and catfish. No more than one meal per month. All other fish. No more than one meal per week.	PCBs
Santeetlah Lake (Graham County) and Fontana Lake (Graham and Swain counties)	Walleye. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women or children under 15. No more than one meal per week for all other people.	Mercury
Badin Lake (Stanly and Montgomery counties)	Catfish and largemouth bass. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women or children under 15. No more than one meal per week for all other people.	PCBs Mercury
Lake Gaston (Warren, Halifax, and Northampton counties)	Walleye and largemouth bass. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women or children under 15. No more than one to two meals per month for all other people.	Mercury
Mountain Island Reservoir (Gaston and Mecklenburg counties)	Channel catfish. No consumption.	PCBs
Mountain Island Reservoir (Gaston and Mecklenburg counties)	Largemouth bass. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women, nursing women or children under 15. No more than two meals per month for all other people.	PCBs Mercury
Mountain Island Reservoir (Gaston and Mecklenburg counties)	Blue catfish. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women, nursing women or children under 15. No more than one meal per month for all other people.	PCBs Mercury
Lake Wylie (Gaston and Mecklenburg counties)	Largemouth bass. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women, nursing women or children under 15. No more than two meals per month for all other people.	PCBs Mercury
Lake Chatuge (Clay County)	White bass and largemouth bass. No consumption by women of childbearing age or children under 15. No more than one meal per week for all other people.	Mercury
Lake Nantahala (Macon County)	Smallmouth bass, walleye, yellow perch, and largemouth bass. No consumption by women of childbearing age or children under 15. No more than one meal per week for all other people.	Mercury
Lake Norman (Catawba, Iredell, Lincoln and Mecklenburg counties)	Striped bass. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women, nursing women or children under 15. No more than one meal per week for all other people.	PCBs
Lake Norman (Catawba, Iredell, Lincoln and Mecklenburg counties)	Largemouth bass. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women, nursing women or children under 15. No more than two meals per month for all other people.	PCBs Mercury
Falls Reservoir (Montgomery and Stanly counties), High Rock Lake (Davidson and Rowan counties), and Lake Tillery (Montgomery and Stanly counties)	Catfish. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women, nursing women or children under 15. No more than one meal per week for all other people.	PCBs Mercury
Dan River in North Carolina downstream of the Duke Energy – Dan River Steam Station Spill Site (Caswell and Rockingham counties)	All fish and shellfish. No consumption.	Coal Ash
Lake Glenville (Jackson County)	Smallmouth bass, walleye and largemouth bass. No consumption by women of childbearing age, pregnant women, nursing women or children under 15. No more than one meal per month of smallmouth bass or walleye for all other people. No more than one meal per week of largemouth bass for all other people.	Mercury