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1977 Maine Fishing Guide

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

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1977 MAINE FISHING GUIDE



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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
284 STATE STREET
AUGUSTA, ME 04333

OPEN SEASONS

BAG LIMITS

LENGTH LIMITS

GENERAL PROVISIONS

LIVE BAIT

LICENSE FEES —→

GENERAL OPEN SEASONS

In waters or portions of waters naturally free of ice, for all fish.

WATERS	GENERAL SEASON	MAJOR EXCEPTIONS
Lakes and ponds	April 1 to Sept. 30, inclusive	Most reclaimed ponds (trout ponds), open the last Saturday in April.
Brooks and streams	April 1 to Aug. 15, inclusive	Aroostook County: May 1 to Sept. 15. Cumberland and York counties: April 1 to Sept. 15.
Rivers	April 1 to Sept. 15, inclusive	Aroostook County: May 1 to Sept. 15. See county headings for other exceptions.

MINIMUM LEGAL LENGTH LIMITS

Black bass, 10 inches; salmon and lake trout, 14 inches (except 12 inches in Aroostook County, 18 inches in certain waters); brown trout and rainbow trout, 12 inches (no length limit on brooks and streams except 6 inches in Oxford County); other trout, 6 inches (no length limit on brooks, streams, and rivers except 6 inches in Cumberland, Oxford, and York counties; in Cumberland and York counties, length limit is 8 inches on brook trout taken from lakes and ponds.)

GENERAL BAG & POSSESSION LIMITS

No one shall take, catch, kill, or have in possession more than the indicated number of fish during any one day of the open season from any or all of the inland waters of Maine, except as provided by rules and regulations of the Department under Section 1960.

SPECIES	BAG & POSSESSION LIMIT
1. Salmon Trout Togue (lake trout) Black bass	8 fish (12 in Aroostook County) OR 7½ pounds in the aggregate of these species unless the last fish caught increases the combined weight to more than 7½ pounds. Many trout ponds are "fly fishing only," with 5 fish or other special limit.
2. Chain pickerel	10 fish (except no limit in Washington County). No size or weight limit.
3. White perch	No size or bag limit.
4. Atlantic salmon	April 1 is opening date on salmon rivers except the Dennys (May 1). Two fish limit. The regulations vary with the river; be sure to consult the regulations book.
5. Whitefish	8 fish. No size or weight limit.

DEFINITIONS

CLOSED SEASON: The period when it is unlawful to fish for, take, catch, kill, or destroy any fish.

OPEN SEASON: The period when fish may be taken as specified and limited by law; it includes the first and last day thereof.

FLY FISHING: To cast upon water and retrieve in the usual and ordinary manner, an unbaited, unweighted, artificial fly attached to a line to which no extra weight has been added. Except as otherwise provided, it shall be unlawful to troll a fly in waters restricted to fly fishing only.

JIGGING: The use of any fishing tackle or device in an attempt to snag or snare fish. Jigging is prohibited in Maine inland waters and for salmon in tidal waters.

TRANSPORT: Includes to offer or to receive for transportation.

ALIENS: Aliens shall be classified as nonresidents, except that any alien who has resided in Maine continuously for 1 year and in addition thereto is assessed and pays taxes on real estate in the municipality in which he resides, or any alien who has resided in Maine continuously for 5 years, may purchase any resident license issued under Chapters 301 to 335.

RESIDENT: A citizen of the United States who is domiciled in Maine with the intention of remaining and who has resided in this state during the 3 months next prior to date of application for license. (All employees of the Veterans Administration facility residing in Maine and employed by the Togus facility are classified as residents for the purpose of obtaining fishing licenses.)

NONRESIDENT: A person not coming within the definition of *resident*; includes *aliens* as defined above.

TRIBUTARY: A brook or stream flowing directly or indirectly into a lake, pond, or another stream. A lake or great pond (over 10 acres) shall not be considered to mean tributary. The tributary to a great pond shall not be considered a tributary to the outlet of that great pond.

WATER THOROUGHFARE: A waterway without flowage, connecting 2 bodies of water, and covered by the same laws applicable to lakes and ponds.

POSSESSION LIMIT: Whenever any waters have a special bag limit, no person shall have in his possession more than 1 day's bag limit taken from those waters.

BAG LIMIT: The maximum limit, in number or amount of fish, which may lawfully be taken by any one person during one day.

INLAND WATERS: All waters within the state above the rise and fall of the tide.

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

It is unlawful to fish except by use of the single-baited hook and line, artificial flies, artificial lures, and spinners.

No person shall fish with more than 2 lines at any one time.

During any closed season, it is unlawful to fish for, take, catch, kill, or have in possession any fish of any kind from such closed waters.

The possession of fishing tackle in the fields, forests, or on the waters or ice of the state, by any person without license, shall be prima facie evidence of fishing in violation of law.

Generally, all pools of state fish hatcheries and rearing stations and all waters within 200 feet of these pools shall be closed to all fishing (exception: Grand Lake Stream).

Generally, no one shall fish within 150 feet of any dam in which a fishway is located (see law book for certain exceptions); this restriction shall not preclude the taking of alewives and smelts as provided for by Marine Resources Dept. regulations.

Ponds 10 acres or less, formed on brooks, streams, or rivers, shall be governed by the same law regulating fishing that applies to the brook, stream, or river on which they are situated, whether said pond is natural or artificial.

The general laws governing lakes and ponds also apply to thoroughfares and bogs.

Explosive, poisonous, or stupefying substances are prohibited in taking fish.

The use of fish spawn, grapnel, spear, spear gun, trawl, weir, gaff, seine, gill net, trap or set lines, electronic, sonic, or battery powered devices is prohibited in taking fish, except that hand spearing of suckers is lawful in brooks, streams, and rivers which are open to fishing between April 1 and June 30.

Sale of game fish is prohibited.

Smelts, above tide waters, may be taken with a dip net except from waters where prohibited by rule and regulations of the commissioner. No person shall take, kill, catch, or have in possession more than 4 quarts of smelts in any one day.

LIVE BAIT FOR FISHING

It shall be unlawful to sell, use or have in possession, either dead or alive, for use as bait for fishing in the inland waters of Maine, any pickerel, goldfish, yellow perch, white perch, bass, sunfish, crappie, hornpout, carp, or any spiny-finned fish.

No live fish for use as bait for fishing in Maine may be imported from without the state.

Hellgramites may not be transported out of state.

It shall be lawful to take *minnows* usually used as bait for fishing in any inland waters of Maine when those waters are open to fishing. The commissioner may grant permits to take minnows for bait purposes from certain waters at any time.

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FISHING LICENSES – 1977

NONRESIDENT

Season, age 16 and older	\$25.50
12-15 years inclusive	4.00
15-day*	15.50
7-day	12.50
3-day	7.50

*this is the only nonresident license exchangeable; for \$10.50, it may be exchanged for a season license.

RESIDENT

16 years and older	\$ 7.50
Combination	12.50
70 years of age and older	free
3-day*	7.50
Leave or furlough (see below)	

*may be exchanged for resident season fishing license only, upon payment of clerk's fee.

Nonresident licenses may be bought from any of numerous agents in Maine and other states or from the Fish and Wildlife Department, 284 State St., Augusta, Maine 04333. Residents must purchase licenses in municipality of residence (except 3-day license). The 3-day license is for 3 consecutive days only.

Combination fishing and hunting license for Maine residents in armed forces of U.S. stationed outside Maine is \$3.50 and is good for all leaves or furloughs during year of issue.

TRANSPORTATION OF FISH

Licensed persons may ship to residence one day's bag limit once in 10 days. Exceptions: once a year from Rangeley Lake, Mooselookmeguntic Lake, Cupsuptic Lake, Richardson Lake, Upper and Lower.

Trout, salmon, togue, and black bass kept in any sporting camp, hotel, or public lodging place must have name and address of person catching same attached thereto.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For localized information check with regional offices of the Maine Publicity Bureau, located on main traffic arteries leading into Maine, and also with chambers of commerce in the larger communities.