

## **How to find fishing regulations for waters in this county.**

1. Determine the waterbody you are going to fish.
2. Review the Statewide General Law Fishing Regulation Section.
3. Review the Southern and Eastern County Fishing Rules Section.
4. Review the list of waterbodies in the County that have special regulations (S-Codes or written).
  - a. If the waterbody you are going to fish is listed the special rules take the place of the standard regulations for those items listed (i.e. season, daily limits, etc.)
  - b. If the waterbody you are going to fish is not listed then Statewide General Law and Southern and Eastern County Regulations Apply.

## FISHING RULES FOR THE SOUTHERN AND EASTERN COUNTIES

(Androscoggin, Cumberland, Hancock, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford south of the Androscoggin River, Penobscot, Sagadahoc, Waldo, Washington, and York)

### Lakes and Ponds:

- From January 1 - December 31: Unless otherwise indicated under the appropriate county, open to all fishing (includes both ice and open water fishing).
- From January 1 - September 30: Unless indicated otherwise under the appropriate county, general law length and bag limits apply to all fish caught while open water fishing or ice fishing (see page 5).
- From October 1 - December 31: Unless indicated otherwise under the appropriate county, all trout, landlocked salmon, and togue caught while open water fishing or ice fishing must be released alive at once.

### Brooks, Streams and Rivers:

- From April 1 - August 15: Unless otherwise indicated under the appropriate county, open to open water fishing under general law fishing provisions (see page 5).
- From August 16 - September 30: Fishing in brooks, streams and rivers is restricted to the use of artificial lures or flies only, and the combined total daily bag limit for trout, landlocked salmon, and togue is 1 fish.
- From October 1 - March 31: Unless otherwise indicated under the appropriate county, brooks, streams and rivers are closed to all fishing. Any open to open water fishing or ice fishing between October 1 and March 31 will be indicated under the appropriate county.

Unless indicated otherwise under the appropriate county, on lakes and ponds in the Southern and Eastern counties the daily bag limit on trout is 2 fish.

Many waters have special rules that differ from the general law provisions. Check the list of individual waters under each county. If the water you wish to fish appears in that list, the letter codes will direct you to the special rule(s) which are in effect that differ from general law or the provisions for Maine's Southern and Eastern counties. The meanings of the letter codes are as follows:

- A:** Open to ice fishing and open water fishing for all fish from December 1 - April 30.
- B:** Closed to ice fishing until January 1, then open to ice fishing and open water fishing from January 1 - March 31.
- CI:** Closed to ice fishing.
- CO:** Closed to open water fishing from October 1 - March 31.
- S:** Special rule(s) in effect - Special Rules (S-codes) are listed on page 7.  
(Note: Special rules may restrict the general law fishing provisions.)

# General Law

General Law applies unless otherwise specified. Please refer to individual waters for more detail.

## SEASONS

- For Southern and Eastern Counties, see page 16
- For Western and Northern Counties, see page 44

## LANDLOCKED SALMON, TROUT, TOGUE (LAKE TROUT)

DAILY BAG & POSSESSION LIMITS:	MINIMUM LEGAL LENGTHS		The term "trout" when used alone includes brook trout, brown trout, rainbow trout, splake and Arctic Charr (Sunapee trout and blueback trout)
	Lakes & Ponds	Rivers, Brooks, Streams	
5 Brook Trout <sup>A,B</sup> (includes Splake and Arctic Charr)	6 inches	6 inches	The term "brook trout" also includes splake and Arctic Charr (Sunapee Trout and Blueback Trout).
2 Landlocked Salmon <sup>A</sup>	14 inches <sup>C</sup>	14 inches <sup>C</sup>	
2 Togue (Lake Trout) <sup>A</sup>	18 inches	18 inches	
2 Brown Trout <sup>A</sup>	14 inches <sup>C</sup>	6 inches <sup>C</sup>	
2 Rainbow Trout <sup>A</sup>	12 inches	6 inches	
<sup>A</sup> Important...From August 16 - September 30, fishing on rivers, brooks, and streams statewide is restricted to the use of artificial lures only and the combined daily bag limit for trout, landlocked salmon, and togue (lake trout) is 1 fish.			
<sup>B</sup> Important...On lakes and ponds in Androscoggin, Cumberland, Franklin, Hancock, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford, Penobscot, Sagadahoc, Waldo, Washington and York counties the daily bag limit on brook trout is 2 fish.			
<sup>C</sup> In Washington County - except West Grand, East Grand, Spednic, Cathance, Nash, Lower Sysladobsis and East Musquash Lakes - the maximum length limit on landlocked salmon and brown trout is 25 inches.			

## BASS (largemouth and smallmouth)

April 1 - June 30: Daily bag limit: 1 fish; artificial lures only; minimum length limit: 10 inches
July 1 - September 30: Daily bag limit: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 10 inches, only 1 exceeding 14 inches.
October 1 - March 31: Daily bag limit: 1 fish; minimum length limit: 10 inches.

## OTHER SPECIES

Species	Daily Bag Limit	Minimum Length Limit
Pickarel	10 fish	None
Whitefish	3 fish	None
Smelts	2 quarts	None (see page 11 - laws & definitions)
Northern Pike	None	None
Muskellunge	None	None
American eel	50 fish	6 inches
Shad	2 fish	None
Striped Bass	1 fish	Between 20 and 26 inches in total length, or 40 inches or greater in total length.
Atlantic Salmon	See page 98	See page 98
Species not listed above	None	None

**The daily bag, possession and minimum length limits on this page apply to waters open to fishing that DO NOT have special rules stating otherwise. Special Rules (S-Codes) can be found on page 7.**

## **SPECIAL RULES FOR ICE FISHING AND OPEN WATER FISHING (S-CODES)**

- S-1: Closed to taking smelts.
- S-2: Closed to taking smelts, except by hook and line.
- S-3: Tributaries closed to taking smelts.
- S-4: Use or possession of live fish as bait is prohibited. (The use of dead fish, salmon eggs, and worms permitted.)
- S-5: Fly fishing only.
- S-6: Artificial lures only.
- S-7: All trout, landlocked salmon, and togue caught must be released alive at once.
- S-8: Restricted to 2 lines per person.
- S-9: Open to fishing only for persons under 16 years of age. Restricted to two lines per person. Daily bag limit on trout: 2 fish.
- S-10: Remains open to open water fishing from October 1 - November 30: artificial lures only; all trout, landlocked salmon and togue must be released alive at once. Closed to open water fishing from December 1 - March 31.
- S-11: Reserved for additional options.
- S-12: Reserved for additional options.
- S-13: No size or bag limit on bass.
- S-14: Daily bag limit on bass: 1 fish; all bass between 16 and 20 inches must be released alive at once.
- S-15: All bass between 13 and 18 inches must be released alive at once. April 1 - June 30: daily bag limit on bass: 1 fish. July 1 - March 31: daily bag limit on bass: 2 fish.
- S-16: Daily bag limit on trout 2 fish; minimum length limit: 12 inches, only 1 may exceed 14 inches.
- S-17: Daily bag limit on trout: 2 fish; minimum length limit: 10 inches, only 1 may exceed 12 inches.
- S-18: Daily bag limit on trout: 1 fish; minimum length limit: 18 inches.
- S-19: Daily bag limit on trout: 2 fish.
- S-20: All trout less than 6 inches and longer than 12 inches must be released alive at once.
- S-21: Daily bag limit on trout: 1 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches.
- S-22: Daily bag limit on landlocked salmon: 1 fish.
- S-23: Minimum length on landlocked salmon: 16 inches.
- S-24: Daily bag limit on landlocked salmon: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 12 inches.
- S-25: Daily bag limit on togue: 1 fish.
- S-26: Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
- S-27: Daily bag limit on togue: 6 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 23 inches.
- S-28: Daily bag limit on white perch: 25 fish.
- S-29: No bag limit on pickerel. From July 1 - September 30: artificial lures only; the minimum length on trout is 8 inches.
- S-30: Indian Territory Regulations. See pages 89-93.
- S-31: Boundary waters with New Brunswick. See pages 93-95.
- S-32: Border waters with New Hampshire. See pages 95-97.
- S-33: Maximum length on landlocked salmon and brown trout: 25 inches.

## LINCOLN COUNTY

See general law fishing provisions on page 5, and special rules for Maine's southern and eastern counties on page 16. Some waters may have special rules that differ from general law.

If the Lincoln County water you wish to fish IS listed below, the letter code will direct you to the rule(s) which are in effect that differ from general law or the special provisions for Maine's southern and eastern counties. The meanings of the letter codes are as follows:

**CI:** Closed to ice fishing.

**S:** Special rule(s) in effect - Special Rules (S-codes) are listed on page 7. (Note: Special rules may restrict the general law fishing provisions.)

**Unless indicated otherwise below, on lakes and ponds in Lincoln County the daily bag limit on brook trout is 2 fish.**

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**Adams Pond,** Boothbay Harbor. **CI.** S-10.

**Boyd Pond,** Bristol. Motorboats over 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Dick's Pond,** Bristol. **CI.** S-10.

**Hasting's Pond,** Bristol. **CI.** S-10.

**James Pond,** Somerville. S-33.

**Knickerbocker Pond,** Boothbay. Motorboats over 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Lily Pond,** Edgecomb. Motorboats

prohibited.

**Little Pond,** Damariscotta. **CI.**

Motorboats prohibited. From April 1 - September 30: S-6, S-13, S-18. From October 1 - October 31: S-6, S-7, S-13. Closed to all fishing from November 1 - March 31.

**Long Pond,** Somerville, Jefferson. S-33.

**Medomak River,** Waldoboro. From the outlet of Medomak Pond to the head of tide: Open to open water fishing from January 1 - December 31, S-19, S-33, General Law terminal gear provisions apply year-round.

**Peters (Gross) Pond,** Waldoboro. **CI.** S-10.

**Pinkham Pond,** Alna. **CI.** S-13.

Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited.

**Quarry Pond,** Waldoboro. S-9.

**Ross Pond,** Bristol. **CI.** S-10.

**Sawyers Pond,** Southport. **CI.** S-10.

**Sheepscot River.** (See Waldo County)

**Sheepscot River,** West Branch. (See Kennebec County)

**Upper Pond,** Bristol. **CI.** S-10.

**Webber Pond,** Bremen. Motorboats over 10 horsepower prohibited.

**West Harbor Pond,** Boothbay Harbor. Motorboats over 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Wiley Pond,** Boothbay. **CI.** S-6, S-10. Motorboats prohibited.