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*This pamphlet is a summary of the applicable laws and regulations governing sport fishing in West Virginia. The West Virginia Code and the West Virginia Code of Rules contain the details of these laws and regulations. Both publications are available for review in the Director’s Office and Division of Natural Resources District Offices. Copies of the official regulations may be obtained from the West Virginia Secretary of State. Year-round fishing is in effect unless otherwise noted.*

## New for 2017

1. Flathead Catfish fishing regulations have been implemented on the Ohio and Kanawha rivers. See page 4 for details.
2. Trout fishing regulations have been added on Seneca Creek (Pendleton County) and Mill Creek (Randolph). See page 6 for details.
3. A Children and Class Q designation has been added at Clear Fork in Oceana. See page 4 for details.
4. The West Virginia Legislature passed a law that prohibits the taking of fish and other aquatic organisms from waters of the state to be used for commercial purposes.
5. The Legislature increased the replacement cost for native brook trout that exceeds the creel limit illegally to \$100 each for the first five and \$20 for each fish taken after that.



**Jim Justice, Governor**  
 State of West Virginia

**Robert A. Fala, Director**  
 Division of Natural Resources

**Paul R. Johansen, Chief**  
 Wildlife Resources

**Col. Jerry B. Jenkins, Chief**  
 Law Enforcement Section

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### Landowner – Sportsmen Relations

West Virginia anglers are indebted to local landowners throughout the state. Without their consent and generosity, fishing would be restricted to state and federal lands. The opportunity for continued use of private property is largely dependent upon anglers’ attitudes and conduct. Most stream closures are the result of disrespect for private property.

### Statement of Policy Relative to Public Use of Facilities

It is the policy of the Division of Natural Resources to provide its facilities, accommodations, services and programs to all persons. Complaints should be mailed to: Director, Division of Natural Resources, 324 Fourth Avenue, Room 341, South Charleston, WV 25303, or to the Office of Human Resources, U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Hadley, MA 01035-9589. The Division of Natural Resources is an equal opportunity employer.