

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Regulations 2-10
 Summary..... 2
 Special Areas..... 3
 Other Methods of Fishing..... 9

Fishing..... 11-17
 Favorite Waters..... 11
 Float Trips and Water Trails 12
 Public Lakes and Ponds 14
 Boating and Water Safety 16

Trophy Fish Citation Program 17

Trout Stocking 18-19

Fish 20-26
 State Record Fish..... 20
 Angler’s Alert..... 21
 A Guide to Your Health 22
 WV Consumption Advisories..... 23
 Ohio River Consumption Advisories 25
 Sport Fish Restoration Program 26

License Fees and Information..... 28-29

Sport Fish Identification..... 30

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 2018

1. The New River walleye regulation was updated to include a section of the the New River, from the confluence of the New and Gauley rivers to Hawks Nest Dam. See page 8 for details.
2. The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources has announced plans for a special golden rainbow trout stocking in 2018. During the week of April 2-6, 2018, DNR will stock only golden rainbow trout in designated lakes and streams across the state, including those in several state parks. Go to www.wvgoldrush.com for more information.
3. The WV Legislature enacted the following during the 2017 Legislative Session: It is illegal to catch, take, kill, or attempt to catch, take or kill any fish by any means within two hundred feet of division personnel engaged in stocking fish in public waters.



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.



WildlifeWV
 wvdnr

DNRpolice

