

General Fishing Regulations for Vermont

Table 1: General Fishing Regulations for Vermont.

Note different regulation for River/Stream and Lake/Pond.

Regulations for all waterbodies NOT listed in the Index of Rivers and Streams (p.38) or the Index of Lakes and Ponds (p.46) fall under this table. Waterbody-specific regulations listed in Index of Rivers and Streams or the Index of Lakes and Ponds override the General Regulations

SPECIES	OPEN SEASONS FOR HARVEST	TYPE OF WATER BODY	MINIMUM LENGTH	DAILY LIMIT	LEGAL METHODS
American Shad	All Year	All	NA	0	Catch and release open-water fishing
Anadromous Atlantic Salmon	No open season	All	NA	0	None
Bowfin, Mullet (Redhorse), Gar	All Year	River/Stream	None	No more than 5 of any one species	Open-water fishing
		Lake/Pond	None	No more than 5 of any one species	Open-water fishing, Ice fishing, Spear gun, Bow and crossbow all with line attached
Brook Trout and Brown Trout and Rainbow Trout	2nd Sat. in April to Oct. 31	River/Stream	None	Total of brook + brown + rainbow = no more than 8	Open-water fishing
	2nd Sat. in April to Oct. 31 and Jan 1 to March 15	Lake/Pond	None	Total of brook + brown + rainbow = no more than 6	Open-water fishing, Ice fishing
Carp, Suckers (Longnose and White), Cull Fish	All year	River/Stream	None	No limit	Open-water fishing
		Lake/Pond	None	No limit	Open-water fishing, Ice fishing, Spear gun, Bow and crossbow all with line attached
Crappie	All Year	All	8"	25	Open-water fishing, Ice Fishing
Lake Sturgeon	No open season	All	NA	0	No fishing
Lake Trout	2nd Sat. in April to Oct. 31	River/Stream	18"	Total of lake trout + landlocked salmon = no more than 2	Open-water fishing
Landlocked Atlantic Salmon			17"		
Lake Trout	2nd Sat. in April to Oct. 31 and Jan 1 to March 15	Lake/Pond	18"	Total of lake trout + landlocked salmon = no more than 2	Open-water fishing, Ice fishing
Landlocked Atlantic Salmon			17"		
Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass	2nd Sat. in June to March 15	All	10"	Total of largemouth + smallmouth = no more than 5	Open-water fishing, Ice fishing
Muskellunge	All Year	All	NA	0	Catch and release with artificial lures and flies only
Northern Pike	All Year	All	20"	5	Open-water fishing, Ice fishing
Rainbow Smelt	All Year	All	None	No limit	Open-water fishing, Ice fishing
Sauger	No open season	All	NA	0	None
Walleye	1st Sat. in May to March 15	All	18"	3	Open-water fishing, Ice fishing
Yellow Perch	All Year	All	None	50	Open-water fishing, Ice fishing
All Other Species	All Year	All	None	No limit	Open-water fishing, Ice fishing



Catch and Release: For species with defined harvest seasons, targeted catch and release angling can occur outside of harvest season, using artificial lures and flies except on those waters/areas that are closed to fishing.

Note: Daily Limits cannot be combined between rivers/streams and lakes/ponds.