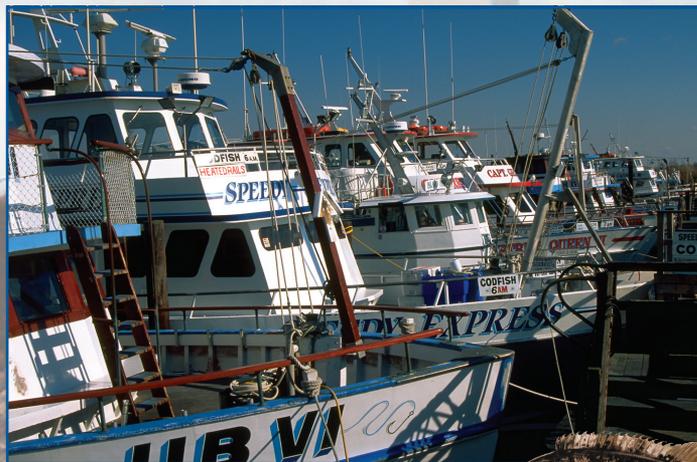
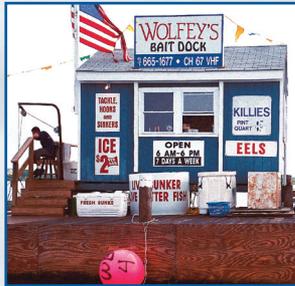


# New York Sportfishing Guide

The Fisherman's Welcome	1
Marine Fishing Regulations	1
Fishing Tips	2,6
Handling Catch	3
Party/Charter Boat Fishing	4
Freshwater Fishing	5, 13
Fishing Access Map	7, 8
Boating Around Long Island	9
Marine Education Resources	10
Fish Identification Guide	11, 12
Fishing from the Shoreline	14, 16
Bait and Tackle Services	15
Directories	17, 18



## Welcome to New York Sportfishing

Dear Readers,

Welcome to *New York Sportfishing Guide!*

New York is one of the greatest places to fish on the East Coast. Whether you decide to spend an afternoon fishing from a headboat, catch the surf in Montauk, or try the excellent freshwater fishing in one of the State parks, all offer memorable sportfishing opportunities. The sportfishing industry has many dedicated individuals that are eager to share their local knowledge. If it is your first time visiting New York, or fishing, please consider the marine district as a place filled with 'friends you have yet to meet'.....

Happy fishing!

Fred Golofaro  
*The Fisherman*  
Publisher

A publication by  
New York Sea Grant  
3059 Sound Avenue  
Riverhead, NY 11901  
Tel: (631) 727-3910  
Fax: (631) 369-5944  
and

The Fisherman  
14 Ramsey Road  
Shirley, NY 11967  
Tel: (631) 345-5200  
Fax: (631) 345-5304

Photographs © 2005 Robert Strovink (unless stated otherwise)

Designed by L.C. Graphics

Funds provided by Fisheries Extension Enhancement grant A/EEP-22, The Fisherman®, and Surfside 3 Marina Weakfish Tournament. The trademark brands and businesses mentioned are not an endorsement by New York Sea Grant College Program and The Fisherman®.



[www.nyseagrant.org](http://www.nyseagrant.org)



© 2005 New York Sea Grant College Program  
New York Sea Grant College Program provides equal employment opportunities

15 M

## Marine Recreational Fishing Regulations 2005

Effective April 8, 2005

FISH	SIZE LIMIT (TL/inches)	DAILY POSSESSION (# fish)	OPEN SEASON
Summer Flounder (Fluke)	17.5	5	April 29 - Oct 31
Winter Flounder	11	15	3rd Sat. in March - June 30 and Sept 15 - Nov 30
Tautog (Blackfish)	14	10	Oct 1 - May 31
Bluefish (incl. 'snappers')	No minimum size for first 10 fish and 12" TL for next 5	15 no more than 10 of which shall be less than 12" TL	All year
Weakfish- whole	16	6	All year
fillet	10		
dressed	12		
Striped Bass			
Marine <sup>a</sup> - Party/Charter Boat	28	2	April 15-Dec 15
All other anglers	28 - 40 and >40	1 1	April 15 - Dec 15
N George Washington Bridge	18	1	March 6 - Nov 30
Atlantic Mackerel	None	None	All Year
Black Sea Bass	12	25	Jan 1 - Nov 30
Porgy (Scup)			
Party/Charter Boat	10.5	25	July 1 - Oct 31
	10.5	60 <sup>b</sup>	Sept 1 - Oct 31
All other anglers	10.5	25	July 1 - Oct 31

<sup>a</sup>For striped bass, marine waters are defined as south of the George Washington Bridge

<sup>b</sup>Party/charter boat patrons must possess original receipt from a licensed vessel to be eligible for these allowances

Fishing regulations may change seasonally or more frequently, and you should visit NYS DEC website [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/marine/finfish/swflaws.html#marine](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/marine/finfish/swflaws.html#marine) for marine fish regulations, and [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/fish/index.html](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/fish/index.html) for freshwater fish regulations.

## Safety Tips for Anglers & Boaters

**Brian Kempf, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, & Historic Preservation**

- ▶ Bring one life jacket for each person on board, and wear it in cold weather; children 12 and under are required to wear life jackets at all times
- ▶ Never exceed your vessel's carrying or powering capacity (see vessel's capacity plate), and do not overload
- ▶ Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to be back. Ask them to call the authorities if you fail to return on time
- ▶ Keep an eye on the sky for foul weather and seek safe harbor
- ▶ Bring a portable phone or VHF radio to summon assistance if necessary
- ▶ Avoid consuming excessive amounts of alcohol and bring water and sunscreen
- ▶ Bring approved visual distress equipment such as flares or smoke signals in case you need assistance
- ▶ Familiarize yourself with local waters and obtain a chart of the area in which you plan to operate
- ▶ Remember the 'one three' rule for gas consumption – use 1/3 on the way out, 1/3 for fishing, and keep 1/3 for the trip home. Keep more gas for the return trip if you expect strong head winds.
- ▶ Learn basic first aid and keep a first aid emergency kit on the boat at all times
- ▶ Engine exhaust causes carbon monoxide poisoning; be familiar with these symptoms (headache, nausea, weakness, and dizziness)
- ▶ Take a course to learn about safe boating

# Fishing 101

**William A. Muller, Guest Author**

I was five years old the first time my dad took me fishing, and it was an instant love affair. I began reading *Field & Stream* and other popular fishing magazines to learn about far away places with great fishing. I yearned for that day when I became old enough to fish the great spots. Little did I know that Long Island offers excellent offshore, inshore, and surf fishing from the ports and beaches. There is a diverse fish assemblage awaits every angler. It is no surprise that Long Island ranks high as a fishing destination for people throughout the world.

## Start Simple

I've seen too many people dive into the 'deep end', by fishing too quickly. It doesn't make sense for someone to give full commitment to a sport until they decide how enjoyable it really is, and one should consider how much time one intends to devote to fishing, because there are different levels of involvement.

Anglers can fish with family members a few weekends each year, or immerse themselves in the sport on a competitive basis. Each end of the spectrum, and those in between, requires a different level of commitment, tackle, and equipment.

Beginners should start simply and use inexpensive equipment. After deciding which fish to catch, you are ready to explore the tackle options. For example, tackle that is being used to catch snappers (baby bluefish)



Photo by Tom Schlichter

Rod Length (ft)	~7	~8	~9	~10
Reel Size No. (e.g., Shimano®)	2000	4000	6000	8000
Reel Size No. (e.g., Mitchell®)	100	200	250	300
Line Strength (lbs test)	10	12	15	20

differs from the type used to surfcast for stripers. Many people enjoy doing their own research on the internet, but this source can be overwhelming for beginners. Make a trip to the neighborhood bait and tackle store to seek advice, instead. Tell your bait and tackle dealer which fish you intend to catch, and explain that you want to use 'starter' equipment to help you to decide if fishing is the right outdoor sport for you.

You can use a few simple guidelines to gauge your questions and the dealer's advice.



## Spinning vs. Conventional Reels

Spinning reels are easier for beginners. They are positioned below the rod and the line comes off in loops. Conventional or revolving spool reels are positioned above the rod, and the line feeds like the thread from a spool on a sewing machine. They require more skill. Rods are constructed with light, medium, medium-heavy, and heavy action in mind. These terms refer to flexibility and rigidity in the pole when pressure is applied. Many beginners work best with medium action rods for spinning, and medium-heavy rods for revolving spool reels. A reel is matched to the rod's length. The table is provided for guidance to match spinning rods and reels. These options are meant as guidance, because rods differ in design and manufacturers use several

numerical systems to categorize their products and it is sometimes necessary to mix and match the rod and reel.

## Lines

There is much written material about braided lines; however, braids have several glitches that may prove to be major stumbling blocks for beginners. Beginners can use monofilament lines until they acquire more experience, and the table provided can assist beginners to make these selections.

## Clothing

Clothing is an important part of one's gear and yet it is often overlooked. Anglers fish around water where the temperature is cooler than inland. Bring a sweatshirt from home, even in warm weather. Savvy anglers invest in a good pair of boots — calf-height boots are useful in spring and fall, and chest waders are comfortable for beach fishing. Wearing thick socks ensures those boots offer maximum comfort, and extra layers of clothing helps to deal with the chill, inevitable sprays, and unexpected rain showers. Bring a few bottles of drinking water to avoid dehydration, even in winter. A good hat and sun block lotion prevents sunburn and offers protection against skin cancer. Being a professor, I could make this article into a 'fishing 101' semester course. The more an angler becomes involved in fishing, the more there is to learn about fishing.

By the way, there's another thing to bring when you go out to fish — an open mind and a thirst for knowledge. Learning new things and the challenges of angling have kept me coming back for more than fifty years. See you on the beach!

**William Muller is a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America.**

*Editor's Note: The author does not endorse the trademark brands mentioned.*

# Handling Your Catch

**Ken Gall, New York Sea Grant**

Have you ever wondered why sometimes fish you catch doesn't taste as good as expected, or worry that you've done something that could make yourself or someone else who eats your catch, ill? Fish is highly perishable and it must be handled properly. You can keep your catch safe by following a few simple tips and keeping it cool.

Changes in fish quality begin when it is hooked, and continue after it dies. When a fish is hooked, it engages in a struggle that depletes its energy reserves, and this changes the muscles (the part we eat). The longer the struggle, the more metabolic by-products accumulate in the muscles that affect the flavor and texture. Physical damage also causes bruises, blood clots, damage to internal organs and other problems that affect quality.

Bacteria from the environment and gut begin to multiply after a fish dies, and the rate depends on the temperature. Bacterial growth at 90°F is rapid and fish spoils within a day. In contrast, spoilage takes 7 to 14 days at 32°F (the temperature of melting ice) for most fish. Keeping your catch as cold as possible is important, especially for certain species of fish that are likely to develop scombrototoxin or histamine. Once scombrototoxin forms in fish it cannot be removed, and it can cause a "food poisoning" type illness that could be life threatening for most people. Scombrototoxin poisoning is the most common food borne illness associated with fish consumption in the U.S., and it can be prevented if fish are handled and chilled properly. The types of fish most at risk for developing scombrototoxin are bluefish, bonito, herrings, jacks, mackerels, mahi-mahi, marlin, shads, tunas and wahoo.



## Tips for Handling Fish Properly

### Land your fish quickly and carefully.

Avoid puncturing the gut and edible parts if you use a gaff or other aids. Kill the fish quickly to prevent it from being bruised. Bleed the fish to improve the quality of the meat.

### Chill fish as quickly as possible.

Ice is an inexpensive way to cool fish. Use crushed or flaked ice to maximize the surface area contact with the fish. Cover the bottom of a cooler with a layer of flaked or crushed ice, place the fish on the ice, and cover it with more ice. Make an ice-slurry by mixing 8 parts ice to one part sea or fresh water in a cooler and use it to cool the fish faster. Remember to add more ice as it begins to melt, and make sure that you use ice made from potable (drinkable) water. Use ice only if you have any doubts about the water quality, or don't have access to clean water.

Clean fish carefully. Get the fish on ice as soon as it is caught and leave the cleaning until after the fishing trip. However, gut large fish as soon as it is captured, and pack the gut cavity with ice to cool it faster. Be careful not to cut or puncture the gut and internal organs while cleaning the fish. This will release bacteria and enzymes that cause the fish to spoil faster, and increase the likelihood that scombrototoxin could develop. Rinse the entire fish thoroughly, including the gut cavity, before packing it in ice. Do not gut small fish if you plan to fillet them the same day. When you have proper facilities, remove the fillets from the whole fish and rinse them with potable water; place the fillets in plastic storage bags before putting them on ice.

### Store and cook your catch properly.

Transport your catch with plenty of ice and store it in the coldest part of your refrigerator in a container that won't leak and drip onto other foods. Freeze your catch if you won't be able to cook it within two or three days. Fish should be cooked to an internal temperature of 140°F for one minute. Use the 10 minute rule for cooking — cook fish on high heat (425°F) for 10 minutes per inch of thickness. Double the cooking time if the fish is frozen or if you add many ingredients.

### Check for advisories before you go fishing.

Lakes, ponds, rivers, streams and even certain saltwater bodies, and fish species may have a history of elevated levels of contaminants like PCBs or mercury from environmental pollution. The health authority in each state issues advisories to let people know which fish from each body of water have elevated levels of contaminants. The NYS Department of

Health updates these advisories every year in spring before the freshwater fishing season opens. Check these advisories before fishing, or at least once per year at the website [www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/fish/fish.htm](http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/fish/fish.htm).

By following these few simple precautions you can enjoy eating your catch as much as you enjoyed fishing!



# Party and Charter Boats: Not Just for Land Lubbers

**Tom Schlichter, Guest Author**

If you think that party and charter boat fishing are hobbies for those poor souls without boats, think again. Heading out on Long Island's 'pay-to-play' vessels is entertaining and challenging. Party/charter boat fishing offers the chance to learn new tricks, try different tackle, and fish in waters you've never cruised. It's a great way to fish in areas that are too rough or too far away to reach with smaller crafts.

## What's the difference?

Party boats, referred to locally as 'open boats' or 'head boats', are vessels that accommodate from six to as many as two hundred anglers on each trip. Reservations are not usually necessary for these excursions, although you might want to call ahead on weekends just to be sure. All you need to do is show up at the dock before the advertised sailing time, get on board, pay the fare, leave the rest to the skipper, and have fun.

Charter boats service groups of fewer passengers (up to six) for a flat rate fee and reservations are always necessary. A captain may sometimes combine reservations and carry more than one group of anglers on the same fishing trip. The big plus is that one can choose one's rail mates because the boat is booked exclusively. Charter boating allows anglers to fish with a specific type of tackle, such as fly-fishing or use spinning gear for stripers and blues, or to target large or less sought after species such as false albacore. Anglers can enjoy informative one-on-one interactions with the mates and skipper and learn neat tricks to improve their overall fishing success.

## The party boat game

Party boats sail for fish species in higher abundance at a specific port in the year. These boats target fish that are relatively easier to catch because the skipper hopes to produce a solid haul for a larger group of anglers.

Most party boats sail on a full or half-day schedule, but there are exceptions to this rule. Several vessels offer evening and night trips and a few have offshore overnight specials. Skippers may schedule additional trips for striped bass or weakfish on relatively short notice to take advantage of late evening tides. Bait is available free of charge on most vessels and they carry rods, reels, hooks and tackle, either complimentary or for a nominal fee.

The fare structure is based on how far the vessel cruises and the fish being sought, and these factors vary from port to port or even by vessel. Many party boats sail seven days each week in summer, as long as the weather is good. A full day of party boat fishing will cost between \$35 and \$55, and half-day trips cost between \$25 and



\$40. Special half-day trips to offshore wrecks or canyon tuna runs can cost more than \$150 per angler, and you should contact the boat to obtain these details. The party boat fare does not include a tip for the mates (15% of the fare is customary to share with the crew), and it is paid when you leave the vessel.

## Charter options

Charter boat fishing requires advanced planning because these captains have regular customers that book trips weeks in advance, especially on the weekends, during the peak tuna season and on the full moon for striped bass. Charter boat fares are higher, ranging from as little as \$250 for a half-day inshore trip to more than \$1,200 for an extended trip to the offshore canyons. The mates' tip is extra.

Ask the captain how many passengers are allowed to fish on the trip that you intend to book, and you can bring a few friends or family members to split the fare. Having more anglers onboard means less time on the rod when trolling for tuna, so consider the fishing-time trade-off before making a decision. Don't be afraid to ask other party/charter boat customers if they had a good time, if you are considering a trip for the first time. Take note of the vessel's condition and pay particular attention to the tackle because top-notch skippers take pride in their business and they keep a clean boat and good quality gear.

How about planning the next office or corporate retreat as a fishing adventure? Several party boats offer this service to large groups, and they can serve as an 'outdoor' classroom for special school outings. Many charter boats offer nature and pleasure cruises to the lighthouses, or to watch firework displays, so don't be afraid to ask the skipper if it's possible to arrange side trips.

Whether you decide to rent a charter boat or take a party boat excursion, it is an exciting way to explore the marine waters.

**Tom Schlichter is a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America.**



## Party/Charter Boat Fishing Etiquette

*Would you like to book a party or charter boat trip, but you don't know what to expect? This list should help to answer your questions and make the fishing trip more pleasant.*

- ▶ **Ask the captain if you can bring your own fishing equipment**
- ▶ **Find out what services are included in the fare**
- ▶ **Bring medication if you are prone to motion sickness and tell the captain if you have any major health problems**
- ▶ **Remember that excessive alcohol consumption impairs motor skills**
- ▶ **Wear several layers and bring extra clothes in case you get wet**
- ▶ **Bring a container with ice to transport your fish from the boat**
- ▶ **Be punctual and arrive at least 15 minutes before the scheduled departure**
- ▶ **Obtain permission before entering the bridge, and ask the crew to pass a message to the captain if necessary**
- ▶ **Use the railings for support when you move around the boat, and watch the tip of your rod around other anglers**

*Adapted from East End Party and Charter Boat Fishing publication.*



## Ethical Angling

**Antoinette Clemetson**  
New York Sea Grant

More people will care for local waterways and wildlife if they frequent the outdoors. Anglers and boaters that were introduced to the outdoors as youngsters continue to use fishing and boating to spend quality time. Fishing and boating are enjoyable pastimes for the entire family and help people to forge strong bonds. Responsibilities come with an outdoor lifestyle that requires strong ethics that have been embraced by users. Ethics cannot be forced upon others. It is passed on by example and word of mouth.

So who is the ideal ethical angler? There are many things that you can do and this short list is provided to assist you to practice ethical angling. In general, ethical anglers:

**E**ducate themselves about fishing rules and boating regulations

**T**ake only fish that are needed, and properly release other fish

**H**aul their garbage back to containers on the shore or take it home

**I**nhibit the spread of invasive species and do not release bait.

**C**ourteous to other anglers and respect property owner's rights

**S**hare their knowledge and promote sportfishing

Ethical angling is contagious, and you can influence your fishing mate's behavior and attitude by setting a good example. Make the pledge to become an ethical angler!

## Freshwater Fishing on Long Island

**Charles A. Guthrie, NYS DEC and Malynda Nichol, NY Sea Grant**

Often recognized for its excellent saltwater fishing, Long Island provides anglers with outstanding freshwater fishing opportunities on more than 500 lakes and ponds and more than 30 miles of streams. Long Island is known for high quality trout fishing in its numerous spring-fed streams. Unfortunately, many of the waters on Long Island are no longer capable of maintaining year-round trout populations. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) Bureau of Fisheries helps to maintain the trout fishing tradition by stocking these waters annually.

Trout still flourish in many rivers, streams, mill ponds and kettleholes in lesser developed areas. The NYS DEC stocks these waters with over 30,000 brown and rainbow trout each year. Anglers visit Connetquot and Caleb Smith Park Reserves for premier trout fishing in a beautiful setting. These waters are managed for fly fishing and provide outstanding fishing for stocked and sea-run brook, brown, rainbow and tiger trout. Fish weighing over 8 lbs are not uncommon from these waters.

Anglers can also find excellent fishing opportunities for many popular game and panfish species, including largemouth and smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, walleye, bluegill, yellow perch and black crappie. An extended growing season combined with catch-and-release by anglers, permits many of these fish to grow to trophy sizes.

The NYS DEC operates a network of more than 20 boat and canoe launches, fishing access sites, and parking facilities, to help anglers enjoy freshwater fishing. Anglers should obtain permission before accessing



a water body of questionable ownership. A fishing license is required for anyone 16 years of age, and older. Continued access to our waters depends upon anglers being ethical and responsible at all times.

### New Generation of Anglers

The NYS DEC has partnered with NY Sea Grant to launch **I FISH NY** to promote the vast fishing opportunities in the New York metropolitan area. **I FISH NY** provides educational fishing outreach, outdoor fishing clinics, festivals and interactive programs, both as 'in class' activities and for the general public. New anglers can benefit from informational manuals and pamphlets. These resources are excellent tools to teach young people and adults about fishing, and for fostering angling ethics. **I FISH NY** produces a newsletter three times each year. Please contact Malynda Nichol at (631) 444-0283 or email [mjn36@cornell.edu](mailto:mjn36@cornell.edu), and Nim Lee at (718) 484-4940 or e-mail [cl432@cornell.edu](mailto:cl432@cornell.edu), to obtain information about **I FISH NY** or to get on the mailing list.



For licensing, fishing access and other information on freshwater fishing, please contact the NYS DEC Bureau of Fisheries at (631) 444-0280 or email [fwfish1@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:fwfish1@gw.dec.state.ny.us) or visit

▶ [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/reg1/reg1bof.html](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/reg1/reg1bof.html)

General information, i.e. maps, fish stockings, events

▶ [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/fish/fishregs/fishlicense.html](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/fish/fishregs/fishlicense.html)

Licensing information

▶ [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/fish/fishregs/](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/fish/fishregs/)

Freshwater fishing regulations

▶ [www.seagrantsunysb.edu/iffishny/default.html](http://www.seagrantsunysb.edu/iffishny/default.html)

I FISH NY



# Release Fish Successfully

**William A. Muller, Guest Author**

## Change In Paradigm

It's probably a fair statement that few people considered the sustainability of the planet's resources, until the 1970s. A popular perception was that natural resources were to be used freely. A burgeoning society with greater needs altered the model. The paradigm may have changed out of necessity and many people have grown to appreciate and cherish our natural resources. Today's laws allow anglers to keep fish, usually through size and bag limits. Anglers can use special release techniques and careful handling of 'non keepers' to help to make these conservation laws successful.

## My Dad

My father introduced me to fishing and we shared a great love and respect for each other, and the sport. Indeed, he was ahead of his time. When we began to fish together in the 1940s, it was not uncommon for anglers to keep every fish. Fish were more abundant and easier to catch, and that was the way many anglers fished. As a child, I once caught a small fish and I wanted to show it to my mother. My dad's advice was, "Let's throw it back and it will grow, and we'll catch him next year". Sometimes he would say, "We have enough fish, let that one go". His philosophy made sense and it taught me the values of catch and release.

However, this article isn't intended as youthful reminiscence and I will address specific instructions later. Anglers should understand basic handling and release principles, and make adjustments based upon the circumstances. The first decision is whether or not to release fish, and use special techniques to minimize trauma when the fish is hooked, handled, and released.

## Get Them Back Fast

A hooked fish is under stress that is increased when it is removed from water. It is important to fight fish tough,



*Photos on pages 5-6 by Tom Schlichter, Ryan Schlichter and Felicia Scocozza*

unhook them quickly, and return them as soon as possible. Fish may bleed at the spot where it was hooked. Many beginners abhor blood; however, blood dissolves in water readily, and it makes the wound appear worse. Fish that are built for speed, such as bluefish, may bleed more than other fish. Bleeding usually stops after the fish is returned to the water, and anglers can use simple tools to remove the hooks. These tools include needle nose pliers and dehookers, and they can be purchased from a bait and tackle store. Never rip or remove tackle that is caught in the throat and gills, and avoid putting your fingers in these delicate parts. Cut the leader close to the fish instead, if it is hooked in these delicate parts before releasing it. Fish mortality can be reduced for deeply hooked fish with this approach.

## Adjusting the Release Plan

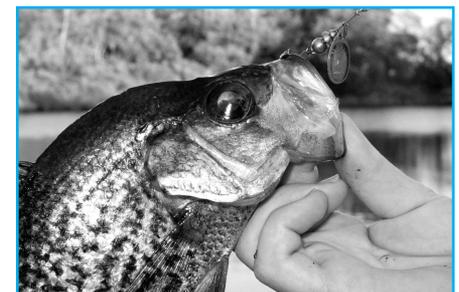
These basic principles may be adjusted based upon the type of fish and its size. Small fish can be unhooked and released successfully under many circumstances, and unless an angler is fishing with very light tackle, these fish can be landed well within one minute. I've used a gentle low toss to wake them up as they are released. Larger fish that have struggled may be sluggish and they should be 'walked' back until they recover. This means that

if the angler is right-handed, that hand is used to grasp the tail firmly, while the left hand supports the mid-section. Position the fish into the current if possible, or resuscitate it by moving it back and forth to push water into the mouth and over the gills. Release the fish as soon as it becomes alert.

Hard fighters and fast swimmers require more care and attention for successful release when compared to slower moving fish.

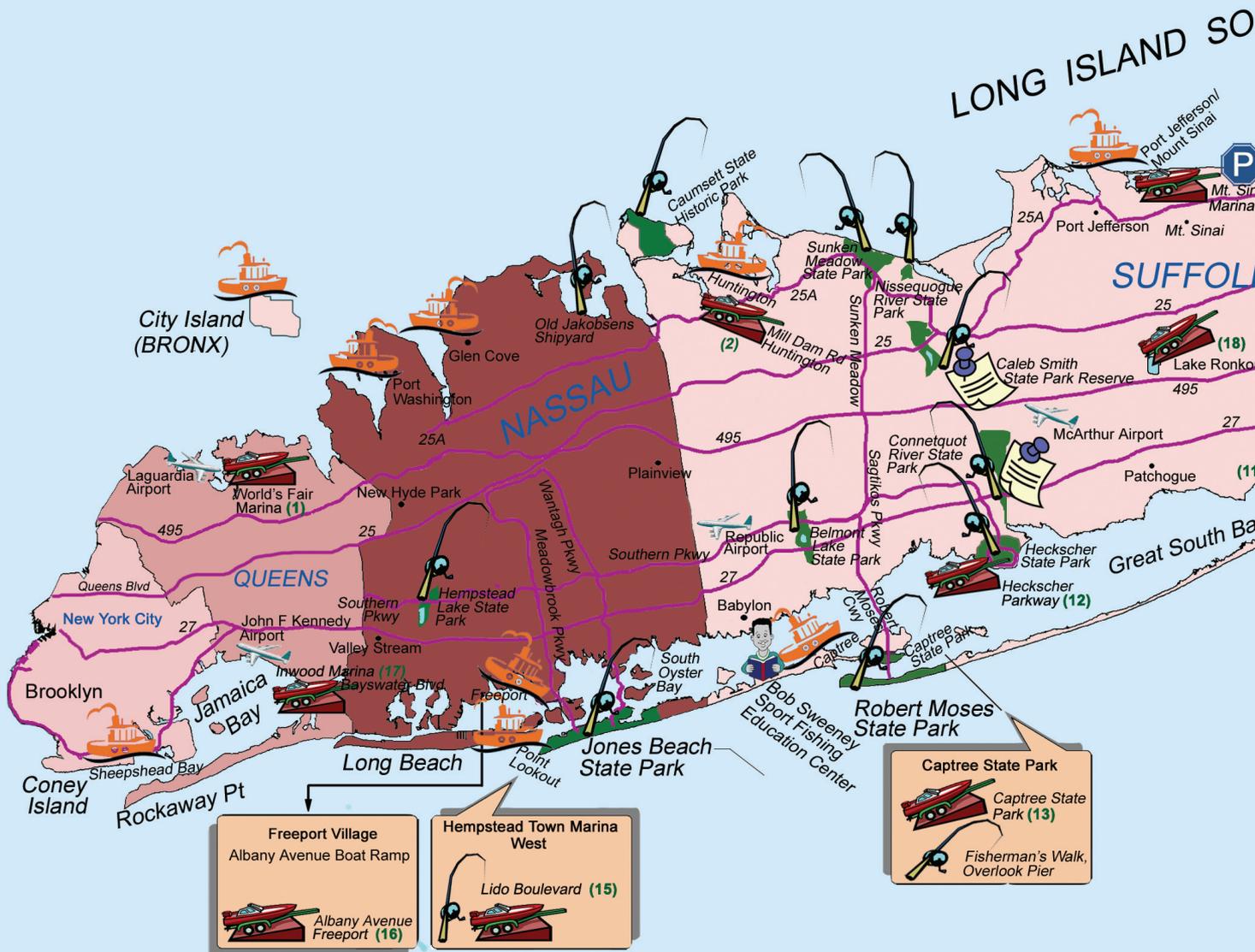
## Indicators of Readiness

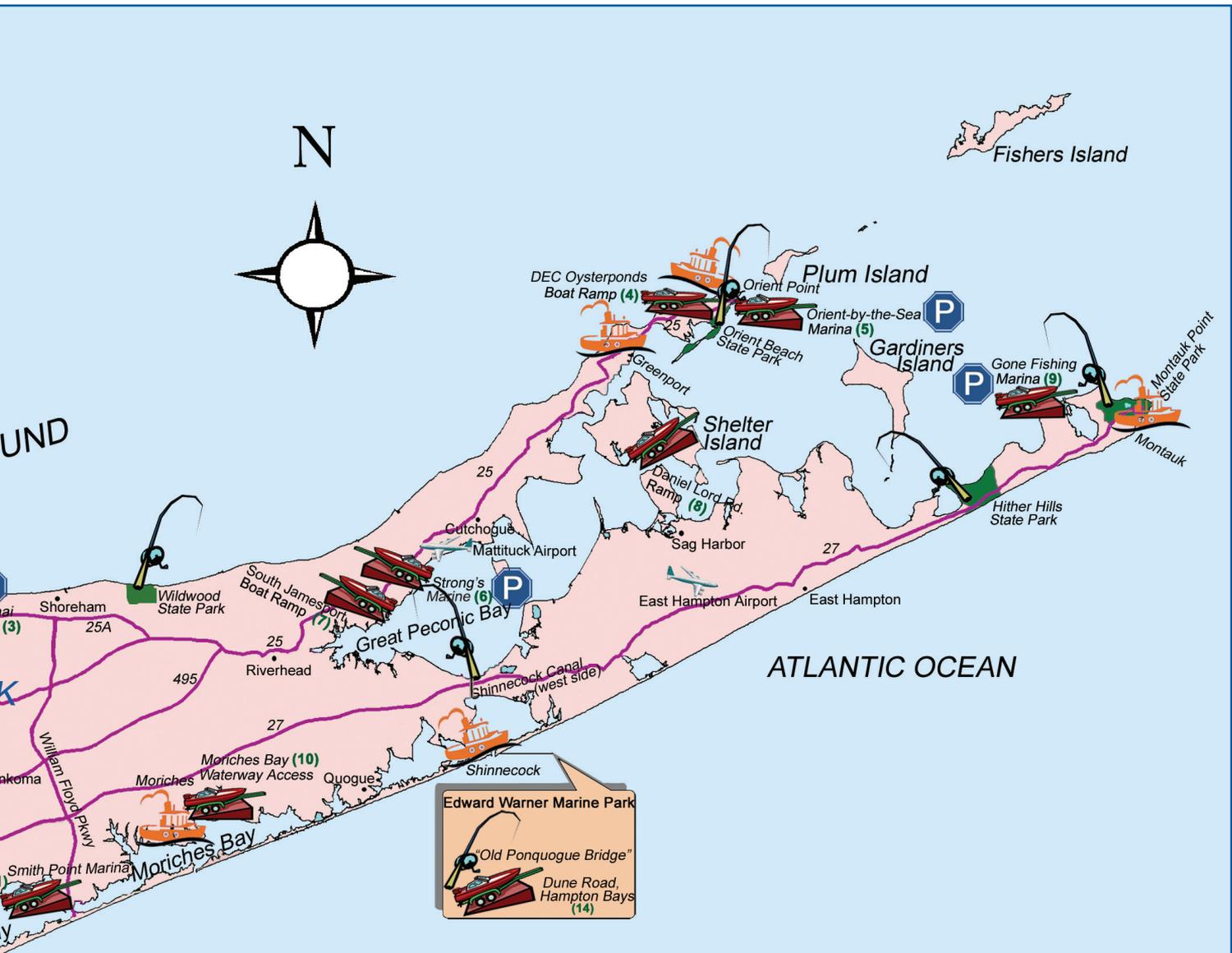
Fish use two signals to tell anglers that they are ready to be released. An erect dorsal fin means the fish is alert, but a flat fin means the fish is still groggy. The second clue is its ability to remain upright in water unaided. If a fish rolls over, it has not recovered. With practice and experience, you too will learn how much TLC to apply before releasing the fish. You may not be able to save every fish, but you can minimize the trauma with care and skill and have a lot more fish to enjoy.



# Fishing Access Map

Fishing and boating are enjoyable and relaxing ways to discover Long Island's marine district. Many fish are seasonal visitors traveling along the Atlantic coast, while others move inshore and off shore. Mark your calendar to remember when your favorite fish comes in season, and don't forget to contact the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation or visit the [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/marine](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/marine) (marine fish) and [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/fish/](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/fish/) (freshwater fish), for the current regulations because the rules may change.





Edward Warner Marine Park  
 "Old Ponquogue Bridge"  
 Dune Road, Hampton Bays (14)

### LEGEND

	Major Road		County Boundary
	State Park		Airport
	Public Boat Launch Ramp		Party/Charter Boat Port
	Privately Operated		Public Fishing Access
	Learning Center		Flyfishing Reservation

Not to scale

# Recreational Boating is Big Business

Jay Tanski and Barbara Branca, New York Sea Grant

## Trip related expenditures

- ▶ **\$173 million** associated with trips to and in regions bordering the Great Lakes and Finger Lakes
- ▶ **\$53 million** associated with trips to and in the Hudson River area
- ▶ **\$162 million** associated with trips to and in the New York City/Long Island Metropolitan Area

## Non trip related expenditures

- ▶ **\$661 million** associated with the economic regions bordering the Great Lakes and Finger Lakes
- ▶ **\$194 million** associated with the Hudson River region
- ▶ **\$907 million** associated with the New York City/Long Island Metropolitan Area

## Total economic impact by region

- ▶ **\$600 million** associated with the economic regions bordering the Great Lakes and Finger Lakes
- ▶ **\$184 million** associated with the Hudson River region
- ▶ **\$843 million** associated with the New York City/Long Island Metropolitan Area

Boating in New York means business – big business. A New York Sea Grant-funded study conducted by Cornell researchers found that the state’s recreational boaters spent a whopping \$2.4 billion in 2003 despite the poor summer weather. The study was the first attempt to directly measure expenditures related to recreational boating and their impact on the state’s economy. Using questionnaires sent to a sample of New York’s half a million registered boaters, researchers estimate that in 2003, recreational boating had a total statewide economic impact of \$1.8 billion, accounted for approximately 18,700 jobs, and contributed \$728 million to labor income.

Researchers Nancy Connelly, Tommy Brown and David Kay of Cornell University’s Department of Natural Resources found that for boating trip related expenditures such as launching fees, lodging, food, and gas, boaters spent over \$431 million statewide. The survey also tabulated how much boaters spent on boat purchases, equipment, boat repair, insurance, and annual fees associated with the use of marinas and yacht clubs. Overall in 2003, almost \$2 billion was spent statewide on these non-trip related expenses. Of this figure, \$1.2 billion was for boat purchases.

“With these research findings, it is clear that recreational boating is big business and an important economic generator for the people of New York State,” said Jack Mattice, New York Sea Grant Director. The intent of the study was not only to quantify the impact of boating, but also to provide information that will help managers, planners, and other decision makers make more informed decisions regarding coastal resource use and development.

As one of the nation’s major boating states, boating is a key recreational industry in virtually all areas of New York, especially the marine waters, Hudson River, Great Lakes, St. Lawrence River, the Finger Lakes, and



Lake Champlain. The economic data are being used to develop tools that will allow managers to better evaluate the impact of boating on a regional scale.

The report broke out expenditure and economic impact figures by boating region and major water body.

The study was conducted with the aid of an advisory panel of agency and boating industry experts from around the state. The estimates were based on a mail survey of 6,000 boaters registered in New York State in 2003. These figures may be conservative for the marine region since data indicate boating activity may have been suppressed due to the weather that year. In 2003, June was one of the wettest months on record and the threat of Hurricane Isabel striking New York’s marine coast in September resulted in many people pulling their boats early, further shortening the season. In addition, the figures do not include spending by transient boaters and others who are not registered in the state. Additional expenditures are most likely made in water bodies bordering other states, especially around Long Island and New York City. Non-motorized boaters, such as kayaks, canoes and small sailboats, are also likely to have made economic contributions throughout the state, but were not included in the study since they are not registered by the state.

You can download a copy of the report from New York Sea Grant’s website at <http://www.seagrantsunysb.edu/CoastalGeo/BoatingReport-FINAL.pdf> or contact Jay Tanski at (631) 632-8730 or email [jjt3@cornell.edu](mailto:jjt3@cornell.edu)

**Submitted by New York Sea Grant**

# The Sportfishing Education Center: A New Way to Explore the Marine Waters

**Gene Young, NYFTTA President**

The Sportfishing Education and Aquaculture Center was opened in 2002. Located at Cedar Beach Marina on Ocean Parkway in the Town of Babylon, this facility was constructed through the efforts of Assemblyman Bob Sweeney (of Lindenhurst), and New York Fishing Tackle Trade Association (NYFTTA). The mission of the Center is to provide an arena to promote saltwater recreational fishing and teach angling ethics. The Town of Babylon donated the land, and the facilities are being operated by NYFTTA. Several groups with a marine conservation interest are affiliated with the Center, and they are working together to coordinate the programs. They include (however not limited to): Long Island Beach Buggy Association, New York Sea Grant, I Fish NY, and Cornell Cooperative Extension.

The Sportfishing Education Center educates residents in coastal communities, especially children, about the marine resources and ecosystems in local waters. The members of NYFTTA believe that recreational fishing develops a heightened awareness about the values of the marine environment. With this in mind, the Center's educational tools include a fishing museum, library, Rod And Reel Loaner Program, and an aquaculture demonstration laboratory.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Marine Program helped to create a marine education curriculum for school groups that visit the Center. This curriculum covers many of the standards that have been established by New York State Department of Education. Marine education classes may be booked by contacting Cornell Cooperative Extension at (631) 587-2873.

The aquaculture facility features a demonstration laboratory that is being used to rear killifish. This laboratory was designed by Dr. Gene Kaplan, a Hofstra University professor. The laboratory is being used to explore the feasibility of rearing marine finfish for the market, in lieu of harvesting from wild stocks. Demonstration tanks are being used to hold freshwater fish, striped bass, summer flounder, trout, and a variety of other species. Aquaculture may be a partial solution to address the continued decline in marine fish population.

A touch tank is available where visitors can have closer interactions with marine life.

The Center operates a Rod And Reel Loaner Program. This program is presently being conducted from several locations around Long Island,

including public libraries. Its objective is to promote the sport of recreational fishing and create an interest in marine issues.

Other programs being offered at the Center include Casting for Recovery, a not-for-profit program that supports breast cancer survivors. This program was first introduced by the efforts of Assemblywoman Ginny Fields, and it provides fishing opportunities to the participants as part of their weekend retreat.

The Center also serves as a meeting place for groups that are interested in learning about marine issues. Representatives from the Marine Resources Advisory Board, Marine Trades Association, Recreational Fishing Alliance, and United Boatmen of New York, met at the Center, to learn about fisheries issues and voice their opinions.



Upcoming attractions being planned for the Center include a fishing pier that will be built along the State channel, to give anglers access to some of the finest fishing grounds in Great South Bay. It will also be used to place interpretive signs that describe the wetlands and wildlife in the area.

You may follow these directions to visit the Center. If you are traveling on Sunrise Highway (west), take Robert Moses Causeway to Ocean Parkway (west). Follow Ocean Parkway (west) to Cedar Beach Marina on the right. If you traveling from western Long Island, take Meadowbrook Parkway (south) or Wantagh Parkway (south) to Ocean Parkway (east). Follow Ocean Parkway (east) and Cedar Beach Marina will be on your left. Continue to the U-turning lane to head west, to access Cedar Beach Marina.

Contact the Outreach Coordinator at (631) 587-2873 to obtain more information about the programs and the operational hours.

# Fish Identification Guide



*Bluefish*



*Porgy*



*Atlantic Mackerel*



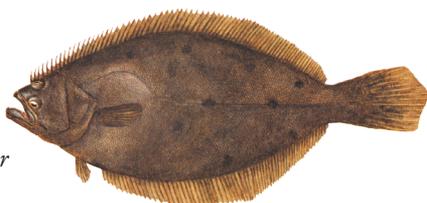
*Weakfish*



*Black Sea Bass*



*Striped Bass*



*Summer Flounder*



*Largemouth Bass*



*Winter Flounder*



*Pumpkinseed*



*Yellow Perch*



*Blackfish*



*Brook Trout*

Fish illustrations reprinted with permission from the Smithsonian Institution, NMNH, Division of Fishes, NYS DEC, A.J. McClane's Field Guide to Saltwater Fishes of North America, and John Waldman. Visit [www.seagrant.sunysb.edu/Fishery/ResourceCenter.htm](http://www.seagrant.sunysb.edu/Fishery/ResourceCenter.htm) and [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dpae/pubs/centerfold.html](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dpae/pubs/centerfold.html) to learn more information about these fish. Check the fishing regulations on page 1 to determine the open season for these fish, or visit the DEC website for more information.

### Bluefish

Bluefish are excellent gamefish that form large schools and have strong biting action. Watch out for their bite! Catch them from late spring until early fall, in the surf.

### Atlantic Mackerel

Atlantic Mackerel travel in schools. Young fish feed on plankton before switching to progressively larger prey. Many anglers catch them on a mackerel tree from May-Sept.

### Black Sea Bass

Black Sea Bass live in the Mid-Atlantic all year and adults like rocky bottoms. Anglers fish with squid and other natural baits, and the best fishing is in late spring to early summer.

### Summer Flounder

Summer Flounder are the most popular flatfish that are caught by recreational anglers in the Mid-Atlantic. Many anglers prefer to fish from party/charter boats, or rent boats for drift fishing. Catch them in summer.

### Winter Flounder

Winter Flounder are excellent fish for new anglers to catch. They prefer shallow bays and estuaries with sand or silt. You can catch their fall and spring runs from a party or charter boat.

### Blackfish

Blackfish have a leathery skin that is slippery. They like rocky bottoms where they feed on mussels, crabs, and barnacles. Catch these fish in fall after they have moved inshore, until late spring.

### Porgy

Porgy contain a lot of bones, and they are good to eat as a fillet or whole. New Englanders call it 'scup' (a derivative from its Native American name). They like hard bottoms and submerged structures. Many party boats target them from summer through early fall.

### Weakfish

Weakfish are good fighters when hooked on light tackle. The name refers to the tendency for the mouth parts to tear when the fish is hooked. Catch them late in the evenings from spring to the start of summer.

### Striped Bass

Striped Bass are excellent gamefish for many anglers. They prefer to stay close to shore when they are not moving between land masses. They form schools and can be caught in late spring, summer, and fall.

### Freshwater

#### Largemouth Bass

Largemouth Bass is the largest member in the 'sunfish' family and they grow in excess of 10 lbs. They prefer densely vegetated areas and submerged cover. Anglers still-fish, cast live bait or a wide variety of lures to catch them.

#### Pumpkinseed

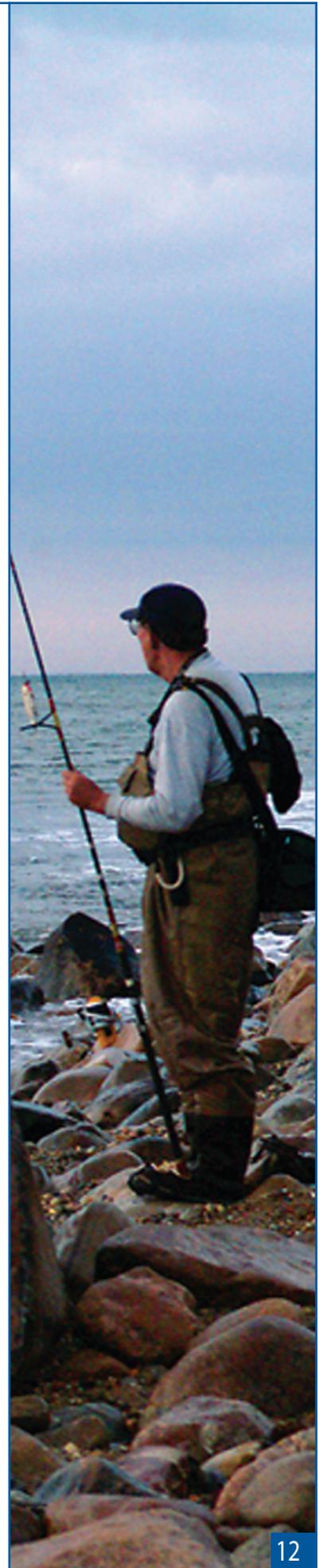
Pumpkinseed are the most abundant sunfish in New York. Look for the pronounced orange/black spot on the gill cover. They eat insects, crustaceans and small fish. Catch them in shallow sheltered waters on live bait or small spinners and jigs.

#### Yellow Perch

Yellow Perch is identified by the black vertical bars on their yellow sides. They prefer shallow protected waters where they feed on aquatic insects, crayfish, and fish. Catch them ice fishing with worms, grubs and small lures.

#### Brook Trout

Brook Trout is the official fish of New York State and it is also called the speckled trout. This popular gamefish lives in small to moderate-sized streams, lakes and ponds, where it feeds on insects. Catch them on flies, artificial lures, minnows and worms.



# Super Sweet Water Fun

**Tom Schlichter, Guest Author**

## Trout Fishing Hot Spots

Upper Twin Pond (Wantagh)

Massapequa Reservoir

Belmont Lake State Park

Argyle Lake and Carlls River (Babylon)

Twin Pond (Centerport)

Sayville Mill Pond (Sayville)

East and West Lakes (Patchogue)

Upper and Lower Yaphank Lake

Carmans River and Hards Lake (Southaven County Park)

Randall Pond (Ridge)

Kahlers Pond (East Moriches)

Laurel Lake (Mattituck)

## Bass Fishing Hot Spots

Fort Pond (Montauk)

Fresh Pond (Hither Hills State Park)

Peconic River/Forge Pond (Riverhead)

Swan Pond (Calverton)

Patchogue Lake

Artist Lake (Middle Island)

Lake Ronkonkoma

Blydenburgh Park (Smithtown)

Southards Pond (Babylon)

Hempstead Lake

South Pond (Rockville Center)

Grant Park (Hewlett)

*Editor's Note: Freshwater bodies in Southampton township are open to residents and anglers accompanied by a registered Southampton fishing guide. Anglers must apply catch-and-release techniques for all largemouth bass caught in Nassau County. See back cover for information about freshwater fishing access. The author does not endorse the trademark brands mentioned. Visit [www.outdoortom.com](http://www.outdoortom.com) for additional information about freshwater fishing*

Long Island's freshwaters offer anglers a shot at monster largemouth bass, trophy trout, aggressive pickerel, giant carp, bullhead catfish and first-rate panfishing. Ranging in size from quaint millponds and trickling streams, to the substantial Lake Ronkonkoma, these water bodies provide fishing action that is sure to put a smile on your face. Best of all, freshwater access is abundant and many places offer at least limited, if not full access to the shoreline.

## Monster Trout

Undoubtedly, the trouting jewels of the freshwater fishing frontier are contained within the parklands that surround the Connetquot and Nissequogue Rivers. Fishing at both locations is with 'flies' only. Beadhead patterns hold an edge over unweighted flies because they can settle deep into those wonderful pockets and runs. Reservations are required to fish in these parks and there is a fee. Both locations offer wheelchair/senior access and anglers can fish within a short distance from the parking facility.

## Super Stockies

While premiere trout fishing is within the boundaries of the parks mentioned previously, there are opportunities to enjoy hot freshwater action in more than 30 stocked lakes and ponds that should not be overlooked. These waters are stocked with rainbow and brown trout each year.

Anglers fly fish in these waters, and many people also enjoy the ease of spin-fishing. Trout take a wide variety of lures including small in-line spinners, tiny plugs and 1/32 to 1/4 oz gold, silver or red/white spoons. Anglers preferring to use natural baits can try a juicy night crawler, wax worm, giant mealworm, live killie or shiner, corn kernel, or a pinch of Berkley PowerBait®.

## On the Bassin' Front

Largemouth bass are renown for their competitive spirit. Most fish are in the 1 to 3 lbs class and a surprising number of 4 to 6 lbs fish are caught each year. Occasional catches of 7 to 8 lbs fish keep anglers hopeful that the next cast will land that "fish of a lifetime". It is likely the new State record bigmouth bass may come from Nassau or Suffolk County, and it could be a fish weighing almost 12 lbs!

The beauty of bass fishing on Long Island is that most lakes, ponds and watering holes offer a good chance to catch fish. The stocked



Photo by Tom Schlichter

trout ponds mentioned also contain a substantial bass population, and there are numerous ponds that support bass and panfish communities on Long Island. As a general rule, if a hole contains water, there is a good chance that bass and sunfish — and probably pickerel, bullhead, carp, perch and crappie, as well, are living in it! A Hagstrom® Atlas is a good investment for serious anglers to locate these freshwater bodies.

The Peconic River is a productive stretch of bass fishing real estate — Forge Pond and Upper Mill Pond in particular. The NYS DEC describes the area as "one of New York's premier bassing waters." Shallow and weedy, the Peconic is best fished with plastic worms rigged weedless style, and jig n' pig combos. A skilled angler can raise harrowing topwater smashes on twitch baits, Hula Popper, Jitter-Bug, Zara Spook or similar surface plugs.

Plan a trip to Lake Ronkonkoma if you prefer deep water bassing. Topping 243 acres with a maximum depth of 64 feet, it is Long Island's largest lake and a great place to fish deep diving plugs and tube lures. This lake (along with Fort Pond in Montauk) has been stocked with walleye over the years, and anglers presently catch fish up to 7 lbs on deep diving plugs, including Bill Lewis® Rat-L-Trap and Rapala® Shad Rap.

## Practice Catch & Release

Long Island's freshwaters are small and quaint, and they provide a unique and intimate fishing experience. Please remember the importance of catch and release when you fish these waters, and release most of the fish that you catch to ensure future generations of anglers will be able to experience the same fine action that you enjoy today.

# A Shore-Based Angler's Haven

**Tom Schlichter, Guest Author**

With more than 1,500 miles of coastline, New York's marine district offers tremendous opportunities for shore-based anglers to score with stripers, bluefish, false albacore, fluke, porgy and black sea bass. Generous stretches of parklands allow access to some of the best fishing action on the eastern seaboard.

A four-wheel drive beach permit is necessary to go off-road or on the beaches within the parks, and a night fishing permit is necessary to fish in these locations after dark.

## The Fishy West End

Gateway National Recreation Area allows anglers to tangle with south shore stripers, bluefish, and fluke, in the shadows of Manhattan. Fishing from Breezy Point Jetty is usually good, especially when false albacore are around from Sept. to October and they provide a good fishing fare along the entire shoreline. A special permit is necessary to park here from March 15<sup>th</sup> to Labor Day.

Surf fishing is a year-round hobby at Jones Beach State Park, offering its mix of bluefish and striped bass that are taken on bucktails, diamond jigs, surface poppers or cut bait. Bottom fishing with squid strips at Jones Beach Pier in Parking Field #10 offers a better chance to catch fluke, porgy, black sea bass, and cocktail blues.

Anglers use Robert Moses State Park to cast in Fire Island Inlet where school bass, cocktail blues and fluke abound. They also probe the rough and tumble ocean surf in search of cow bass, monster blues and doormat fluke. Cut bunker and herring chunks account for many of the bass and blues caught during the summer months, while poppers and tins take top honors during the fall. Striped bass are receptive to plugs worked after dark inside the inlet. Bluefish smack bucktails, tins and poppers in receding tide, and fluke gobble up bucktails and strips of squid fished on the bottom. Sharp anglers can rack up excellent scores on fluke at the marina fishing pier located just east of the station house.

The Fisherman's Pier at Captree State Park is a 'must' for a day of relaxing bay fishing. Anglers visit Captree for its excellent party boat fishing. They also fish the piers that provide access to prime waters east of Robert Moses Bridge.

## Hot Shinnecock Action!

Shinnecock Canal is a strong contender for the title of 'hottest fishing action'. Fish use the channel to move between the north and south forks. Early spring offers good chances for schoolie bass and blues, a smattering of big fish, and the occasional bonus weakfish. Fluke arrive in summer and many keepers can be caught on squid and spearing combos, or white/pink/



chartreuse bucktails combined with squid, spearing or sand eels. Look in the water along the concrete edge and one may find a few tasty blue claw crabs. The locks operate around the tide timetable at Sandy Hook and the key is to cast immediately after the locks close or before they open.

## Long Island Sound Appetizers

Several parks provide public access on the north shore. The Sagtikos Parkway leads to Sunken Meadow State Park, where there is fast action for anglers casting for schoolie blues and stripers on bucktails, tins, and poppers, and for fluke and porgies on bottom-bouncers with squid stripes. Occasionally, a large bluefish or keeper bass may be caught close to the mouth of the Nissequogue River on cut bunker or herring chunks.

Plan a trip east into wine country to Wildwood State Park, where anglers spend the summer bottom fishing for porgy in the daytime. Stripers and blues respond well to swimming shad, tins, and poppers, from spring to fall. Wildwood is well attended by beach enthusiasts in summer, but it offers superior action and a fair degree of solitude in early spring and late fall.

Orient Beach State Park allows surf fishing access to Gardiners Bay, Plum Gut and Long Island Sound. The possibilities for bass, porgy, and the occasional fluke, can appear endless and these sites hold many memorable fishing trips. Anglers work bucktails, tins, and poppers, between the northside boulders, and southside jetties. Casting Deadly Dick<sup>®</sup> tins and small white grubs could land a fiesty abacore in late Sept. to early October.

## Tackle Options

A sturdy 9 to 11 ft spinning set-up spooled with 17 to 30 lbs test line is adequate to work the south shore beaches. Big plugs, large poppers, 2-3 oz tins, and bottom-fishing rigs using chunk bait with 4 to 8 oz sinkers are usual for these areas. Fishing inside the bays and along the north shore requires medium weight, 7 to 9 ft. spinning outfit with 14-20 lbs test line.



## Catch Your Marine & Coastal License Plate

More than \$1 billion worth of economic activity to coastal communities comes from marine sportfishing. Senator Owen H. Johnson and Assemblyman Robert K. Sweeney sponsored legislation in 2002 that created a new motor vehicle license plate to benefit the marine and coastal districts. Residents and visitors of the Empire State enjoy exceptional sportfishing, and a portion of these license plate sales will be used to increase awareness, promote conservation, and fund research on marine resources.

*"New Yorkers can show their support for maintaining, preserving, and improving the marine environment"*

**Assemblyman Robert K. Sweeney**  
11<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Residents can purchase these special license plates at the DMV issuing offices, or online at [www.nysdmv.com](http://www.nysdmv.com), or contact (800) 364-PLATES.

*"New Yorkers can take pride in the marine resources, and help to protect the environment for many generations"*

**NYS Senator Owen H. Johnson**  
4<sup>th</sup> NYS Senate District

More information may be obtained from:

Assemblyman Robert K. Sweeney  
270-B North Wellwood Avenue  
Lindenhurst, NY 11757  
(631) 957-2087

Senator Owen H. Johnson  
23-24 Argyle Square  
Babylon, NY 11702  
(631) 669-9200

*Adapted with permission from  
Assemblyman Robert Sweeney's Office.*

# Neighborhood Bait and Tackle Stores — More Than Just Bait

Tom Schlichter, Guest Author



*“Come into my shop and I’ll get you out the door with a rod and reel that’s affordable, easy to work with, and up to the challenge so that you can catch fish on the first trip”*

Ken Morse

*Tight Lines Bait and Tackle,  
Sag Harbor*



*“Many shops look like small operations — but step inside and you’ll find ‘big-time’ choices, great service and a reservoir of local knowledge”*

John Mantione

*J & J Sports, Patchogue*

Bait and tackle stores provide invaluable services to anglers, and more than 70 independent stores around Long Island contain a wealth of local fishing knowledge. Anglers shop at bait and tackle stores to stock up on fresh and frozen bait before heading out to their favorite fishing hole. Sand eel, spearing, squid, bunker, and clam can make your fishing trips more productive, and a few stores specialize in offering live bait throughout the entire season. Anglers planning an extended fishing camp trip can organize a bulk supply of bait through their dealers. A wide variety of artificial lures can be sourced through these stores, and the dealers are happy to teach you how to work them, which can be helpful if you are a beginner.

## Bait and Some...

In addition to supplying bait, tackle stores are good sources for obtaining first hand knowledge about every aspect related to fishing local waters. “New anglers think of tackle shops as a place to buy bait,” says Ken Morse, proprietor of *Tight Lines Bait and Tackle*, in Sag Harbor, “but these ‘mom and pop’ style shops have a lot more to offer. Sure, you can buy bait and tackle, but our dealers have a pulse on the local fishing scene and they turn anglers onto some of the hottest fishing action.” Dealers can tell you about the tide, good choices for bait and lures, and the best places to fish on any given day.

Anglers can look to their neighborhood tackle store for basic information to get started. “Come into my shop”, offers Ken Morse, “and I’ll get you out the door with a rod and reel that’s affordable, easy to work with, and up to the challenge so that you can catch fish on the first trip”.

John Mantione of *J & J Sports* in Patchogue, shares details about the additional services that local shops offer. “Many look like small operations — but step inside and you’ll find ‘big-time’ choices, great service and a reservoir of local knowledge. Bait and tackle stores are bridges with the regulatory agencies, and anglers often learn about new fishing regulations through these dealers. Dealers are tuned-in to the views and perceptions of anglers, and regulators use us as a source for determining the collective views that prevail in the angling community”.

If an angler forgets to purchase a freshwater fishing license, several bait and tackle stores offer a convenient option to purchase a license at the last minute, which saves the hassle of postponing a planned fishing trip.

## Custom Equipment and Accessories

Sportfishing is a hobby for many anglers and individuals that are committed to the sport for the long run will invest in equipment, like any other outdoor pastime. Custom rods constructed to suit an angler’s physical build can be commissioned through many bait and tackle stores, and these dedicated individuals are available to make repairs to your favorite rods, when necessary. Wet suits, waders, and vests are necessary gear to face the elements under unfavorable conditions, and bait and tackle stores keep anglers up-to-date on the latest equipment.

## Getting Out to Fish

If you would prefer to travel away from the shore to try your luck, there are a few bait and tackle stores that operate boat livery services on Long Island. Anglers can rent a boat to go after bass or to venture out for bay fluke. Boat liveries are convenient options to try different water bodies in the marine district if you aren’t ready to invest in a boat. If your neighborhood tackle dealer doesn’t operate a boat livery, they can tell you where to find one.

Competitive anglers appreciate the convenience of having access to official weighing stations at these locations, where they can register their catch in a tournament, or place an entry in the State fishing record.

The services offered at bait and tackle stores are particularly valuable to beginners, and dealers often organize fishing seminars where beginners can learn fishing tips from master anglers. A fishing guide is an excellent resource person to learn about local waters and fishing techniques, and your bait and tackle dealer can tell you where to locate the right skipper or guide to match your skill level and interest.

Never underestimate the services being offered by bait and tackle stores, and you’ll soon discover that they offer ‘more than just bait’.



# Surfcasting At Montauk

**William A. Muller, Guest Author**

## One of a Kind

There are only a few angling locations in the world that offer unforgettable fishing and awe inspiring vistas. Montauk is one of those places and it's nice to know that Montauk is in our back yard.

Montauk has a special smell, and I recognize it when I am there, even with my eyes closed. Have you noticed that smell? I look forward to it every time I go, and it has become my sixth sense. Teal colored waters, a majestic lighthouse, the rocky and intimidating south side cliffs, and panoramic views of Block Island Sound are as much a part of the surfcasting experience in Montauk as the fishing. This premier surfcasting location is an angler's Mecca each autumn for the fabulous striped bass run. Here are a few ideas to help to make your Montauk fishing trip enjoyable.

## Timing is Everything

Stripers can be caught in most months of the year, but September is the best time to fish Montauk. Bait flood the shallows at this time of the year on their southern migration. Striped bass locate these bait shoals in a day or two, and the blitzes begin. When gamefish have a feeding frenzy it is called a 'blitz'.

Many beaches experience blitzes, but the ones in Montauk are spectacular. Sometimes the waters from North Bar to the lighthouse are foaming with bait fish and gamefish. These are the days that surfcasters dream about on bone-chilling winter evenings. This great fishing does not come without a price tag – hordes of surfcasters share the same winter dreams as you. These beaches can get crowded and it may be difficult to find space to cast. Veteran anglers may shy away from these compacted conditions, but many thrive on the energy.

Many rules may be broken after being conceived, but 'old timers' who fish Montauk work the south side during the flood tide and the north side on the ebb. They work the south side, west towards the lighthouse on incoming tide, and the North Bar to the lighthouse on the ebb tide. This is a good rule of thumb, but there may be exceptions.

## Tackle

Light tackle is not appropriate gear to fish at Montauk. Light tackle puts anglers at a disadvantage when making long casts with heavy lures. Using heavier tackle will save fish and avoid angler frustration since the bottom



is often strewn with rocks. It is difficult to work light tackle on a crowded beach and fighting big fish is often a lost battle.

Experienced surfcasters use 10 ft or 11 ft rods, appropriately sized reels (see page 2), and 20 lbs test line. Anglers need special equipment to face the elements at Montauk. On rough days, surfcasters wear chest waders and a top to minimize their exposure. A belt should be used to secure the top to the waders for safety. Sandals equipped with special metal studs (also called creepers or korkers), are necessary artillery, and surfcasters may decide to wear wetsuits and other sophisticated gear as a personal choice.

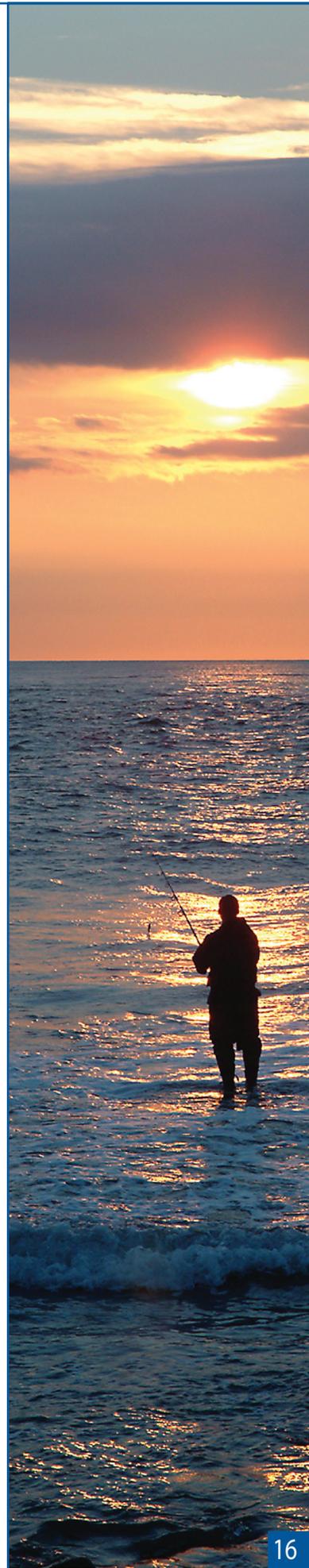
## Lures

There are several hundred lures that can be used to fish for striped bass at Montauk, but beginners should keep things simple. Crucial lures to bring for daytime fishing include pencil poppers, standard poppers, bucktails (white, yellow, or green), and shiny metal lures. Bring a few dozen 1-2 oz bucktails and a jar of split-tail pork rind if you plan to do daytime fishing.

Bucktails (white, green, yellow, black), darters, bottle plugs, and metal lip swimmers are good staples to include in the tackle box for night fishing. Dark colors are usually better at night and lighter colors work well during the day. Yellow darters and bottle plugs are a mainstay to fish Montauk's surf at night.

## Shop and Enjoy

Stop by a local bait and tackle store in Montauk for up-to-the-minute fishing reports and tips about fishing these basic lures for the locations mentioned. Montauk is a unique place for anglers in the fall, but don't get swept away in a fish killing frenzy just because the ocean appears to have an endless fish supply. In my opinion, it's more important to show respect for the sport, other anglers, the fish, and enjoy one of the world's most glorious angling locations.



# Party/Charter Boat Directory

Location	Name	Description	Captain	Phone	Location	Name	Description	Captain	Phone	
CAPTREE	Anna M	Open Party Boat	George Mahr	(516) 707-1907	MONTAUK	Lori-Jay II	Charter Boat (6)	Anthony Del Percio	(631) 668-4264	
	Capt. Eddie B III	Charter/Open Party Boat	Ed Briacat	(631) 957-5452		Lori-Jay II	Charter Boat (6)	Tom McKinley	(631) 668-4695	
	Capt. Gillen II	Open Party Boat/Charter	Patrick Gillen	(631) 661-5531		Lori-Jay II	Charter Boat (6)	Jay Rigano	(631) 668-4586	
	Capt. Gregory	Open Party Boat	Anthony Gregory	(631) 957-6855		Lucky Star	Charter Boat (6)	Brian J. Coleman	(516) 546-0695	
	Capt. Rod	—	George Bartenback	(631) 587-7316		Lyndsea	Charter Boat (6)	Michael Hayes	(631) 329-1720	
	Capt. Whittaker	Open Party Boat	Tim Andresen	(516) 458-0924		Marlin V	Open Party Boat	Jane Bowman	(631) 668-5852	
	Captain Bob-O	Open Party Boat	Rob Bruel	(631) 748-4990		Marlin V	Open Party Boat	Janie J. Quaresimo	(631) 399-7885	
	Captree Princess	Open Party Boat	Robert J. Andresen	(631) 859-8799		Masterpiece	Charter Boat (6)	Mark Assogna	(631) 668-3881	
	Captree Star II	Charter Boat	Charlie Buser	(631) 669-0065		Miss Mac	Charter Boat (6)	Pete Miikoleski	(516) 378-8175	
	Dixie	Charter Boat	Joe Gorman	(631) 859-5195		Missstress Too	Charter Boat (6)	Bart Ritchie	(631) 668-6759	
	Fishfinder	Open Party Boat	Walter Czekaj	(516) 287-3704		Misty Dawn II	Charter Boat (6)	Victor Heathcote	(631) 668-4786	
	Fishtale	Charter Boat	Chris Altbacker	(888) 347-4825		Montauk	Charter Boat (6)	Michael Albronda	(631) 668-2056	
	Island Princess	Open Party Boat	Nick Manzari	(631) 587-6024		Moven On	Charter Boat (6)	John Krol	(631) 668-4502	
	JIB VI	Open Party Boat	Joseph Vanderveldt	(516) 578-1158		My Denise	Charter Boat (6)	Tom Federico	(631) 537-6970	
	Jr. Express	Open Party Boat	James Hubert	(631) 969-3793		My Denise	Charter Boat (6)	Clemente Castracucco	(914) 793-3725	
	Lana Theresa	Charter Boat (6)	Jerry Vutiello	(631) 893-0859		My Girls III	Charter Boat (6)	Joseph Savio	(631) 471-2964	
	Laura Lee	Open Party Boat	Neil Delaney	(631) 661-1867		My Mate	Charter Boat (6)	Joe McBride	(631) 921-8585	
	Nancy Gee	Charter Boat	Andy Gregory	(631) 265-3731		Nicole Marie	Charter Boat (6)	Jimmy George	(973) 812-7557	
	Super Speedy Express	Open Party Boat	Arnold Hubert	(631) 969-3793		Nora John	Charter Boat (6)	Glen Haab	(631) 324-3878	
	Taryn-Ann	Charter Boat	Ken Birkmire	(631) 587-7835		Oh Brother	Charter Boat (6)	Robert Aaronson	(631) 668-2492	
	Tradewinds	Open Party Boat	Paul Risi	(631) 419-1212		Peggy S	Charter Boat (6)	Kenneth Bouse	(631) 668-2743	
	Wally World	Charter Boat (6)	Wally & Alex Werner	(631) 766-2813		Rainbow Runner	Charter Boat (6)	Peter A. Kazura	(631) 668-2198	
	Yankee III	Charter Boat (100)	Fred Roberts	(631) 567-8534		Rainbow Runner	Charter Boat (6)	Peter Jakits	(631) 277-4426	
	CITY ISLAND	Klondike IX	Open Party Boat	Pete Pearson Sr.		(914) 738-4593	Raising Kane	Charter Boat (6)	James F. Kane	(631) 269-0869
		North Star II	Open Party Boat	Dan Juettner		(718) 885-3545	Remember When	Charter Boat (6)	Bill Witter	(631) 668-7518
		Shamrock IV	Charter Boat (7+)	Patrick Barrett		(914) 235-0077	Remember When	Charter Boat (6)	Bill Bennett	(516) 313-0465
FREEPORT	Atlantic	Charter Boat (49)	—	(516) 378-4378	Rusty	Charter Boat (6)	Jim Jolly	(516) 480-4977		
	Bottom Line	Charter Boat (6)	—	(516) 378-4378	Sea Otter III	Open Party Boat	Joel Lizza	(631) 668-0190		
	Captain Jim	Charter Boat (68)	Jim Pallidino	(516) 378-4378	Sea-Flash	Charter Boat (6)	Ray Marvin	(631) 673-9510		
	Captain Lou VI & VII	Open Party Boat	Mike Danon	(516) 536-3849	Seawife IV	Open Party Boat	Tom Cusimano	(631) 668-6894		
	Captain Pete	Charter Boat (105)	Pete Devita	(516) 378-4838	Soaker	Charter Boat (6)	Harvey Smith	(516) 766-5025		
	Cod Father	Charter Boat (6)	Mike Barnett	(516) 729-5247	Susie E II	Open Party Boat	Burton Prince	(631) 668-3776		
	Dolphin	Charter Boat (100)	Tony Greco	(516) 378-4378	Tophook	Charter Boat (6)	Steven R. Witthuhn	(631) 368-1315		
	Fantasy	Charter Boat (62)	Joe Maresca	(516) 378-4378	Venture	Charter Boat (6)	Barry Kohlus	(631) 668-5405		
	Lady Sheryll	Charter Boat (105)	Pete Gouba	(516) 378-4378	Wake	Charter Boat (6)	Stret Whitting	(631) 668-4577		
	Northstar II	Charter Boat (68)	Ron Burdewick	(516) 378-4378	Windy	Charter Boat (6)	Jack Passie	(631) 668-5741		
	Spray	Charter Boat (49)	Jim Lanzarotta	(516) 378-4378	Misty	Charter Boat (6)	Tom Buccì	(631) 859-5043		
	Super Spray	Open Party Boat	Richard Hall	(516) 378-4378	Vivienne	Charter Boat (6)	John DeMaio	(631) 324-8820		
	GLEN COVE	Sea Otter West	Open Party Boat/Charter	B.J. Lizza	(516) 676-6361	OCEANSIDE	No Time	Charter Boat (6)	Nick Savene	(516) 889-0762
		Challenger	Charter Boat (6)	Vinnie Claps	(631) 477-0110		ORIENT POINT	2nd Chance	Charter Boat (3)	George Grosselginger
Eaton Lobster	Charter Boat (6)	Bob Busby	(516) 484-5636	Black Rock	Charter Boat (6)			Sloan Gurney	(631) 323-3813	
Peconic Star II	Open Party Boat (150)	Dave Brennan	(631) 289-6899	Brooklyn Girl	Charter Boat (6)			Ken Holmes	(631) 395-7055	
Surf and Turf	Charter Boat (6)	Ken Birmingham Sr.	(631) 848-2303	Celtic Horizon	Charter Boat (6)			Dave Lawrence	(631) 734-4295	
HOWARD BEACH	Captain Mike	Open Party Boat/Charter	Mike Cannon	(917) 747-4789	Coyote			Charter Boat (6)	Jim House	(631) 734-6288
	—	—	—	—	Fishing Guide			—	Tony LoPerfido	(718) 745-6617
HUNTINGTON	James Joseph	Open Party Boat	James Schnider	(631) 680-8159	Fishy Business			Charter Boat (6)	Phil Kess	(631) 722-9677
	—	—	—	—	Nancy Ann IV			Charter Boat (20)	Rich Jensen	(631) 477-2337
MONTAUK	Adios	Charter Boat (6)	George P. Rudolph	(631) 668-5760	Orient Star II			Charter Boat (38)	Bill Russo	(516) 785-6149
	Alyssa-Ann	Charter Boat (6)	Bill Ricca	(631) 668-1051	Prime Time III			Open Party Boat (49)	Mike Boccio	(631) 323-2618
	Barbara Ann	Charter Boat (6)	Joe Caserta	(631) 668-8923	Rainbow Charters			Charter Boat (6)	Bob Rocchetta	(631) 765-4314
	Blue Water	Charter Boat (6)	James Hunt	(631) 928-5920	Sundowner			Charter Boat (6)	John Sinning Sr.	(631) 765-2227
	Blue Water	Charter Boat (6)	Keith Hunt	(631) 668-6168	PORT JEFFERSON			—	Open Party Boat	Desmond O'Sullivan
	Bluefin-IV	Charter Boat (6)	Michael Potts	(631) 668-9323		POINT LOOKOUT		Captain Al	Open Party Boat	Al Lindroth
	Breakaway	Charter Boat (6)	Richard Etzel	(631) 668-2914			Lady J V	Charter Boat (130)	Pat Focazio	(516) 825-5727
	Caprice	Charter Boat (6)	Robert Storc	(516) 671-7690			Princess Marie	Charter Boat (112)	Dennis Kanyuk	(516) 481-2841
	Captain Mark	Charter Boat (6)	Mark Morose	(631) 668-6773			Super Hawk	Open Party Boat	Steve Kearney	(516) 769-6355
	Captain Ron	Charter Boat (6)	Ron Onorato	(631) 668-4630		PORT WASHINGTON	Long Island Fishing Charter	Charter Boat (6)	Andy LoCascio	(516) 978-1634
	Chappy's Dream	Charter Boat (6)	Chappy Bradford	(914) 737-8395			SHEEPSHEAD BAY	Brooklyn VI	Open Party Boat	Robert Sapanara
	Complete Angler	Charter Boat (6)	Norman Arrigo	(845) 496-4216		Captain Dave		Open Party Boat	Dave Paris	(718) 491-9702
	Dawn	Charter Boat (6)	Robert Tuma	(631) 668-2357		Dorothy B VII		Open Party Boat	Kevin Bradshaw	(718) 646-4057
	Daybreaker	Charter Boat (6)	Mike Brumm	(305) 664-3458		Flamingo III		Open Party Boat	Bob Wiegand	(718) 968-1033
	Doroto	Charter Boat (6)	Lou Rosado	(631) 668-0787		Jet		Open Party Boat	Bill Doli	(718) 743-2063
	Elizabeth	Charter Boat (6)	Robert Maier	(631) 668-7612		Ocean Eagle II		Open Party Boat	Gregory Nardiello	(718) 677-3381
	Fisherman II	Charter Boat (6)	Paul Giangreco	(718) 631-8593		Pastime Princess	Open Party Boat	George Richford	(718) 252-4398	
	Fishhooker	Charter Boat (6)	Otto Haselman	(631) 668-3821		Pilot II	Open Party Boat	Tom Marconi	(516) 599-0700	
	Fishhunter	Charter Boat (6)	Richard Hunter	(718) 740-3781	SOUTHOLD	Compass Rose Charters	Charter Boat (6)	Mike Connolly	(631) 765-9331	
	Florence-B	Charter Boat (6)	Jeff Picken	(631) 329-4201		Register your party/charter boat business by email at <a href="mailto:sgriverh@cornell.edu">sgriverh@cornell.edu</a> or telephone (631) 727-3910, if you would like to be included in the next publication. Disclaimer: Vessels mentioned are not meant as an endorsement and New York Sea Grant is not liable for damages or loss resulting from any errors or omissions.				
	Flying Cloud	Open Party Boat	Fred Bird	(631) 668-2026						
	Free Spirit	Charter Boat (6)	Chris Maccaro	(631) 929-5982						
	Full House	Charter Boat (6)	Peter Guglielmini	(516) 752-1259						
	Half Back	Charter Boat (6)	Art Cortes	(516) 313-0784						
	Herl's Girl	Charter Boat (6)	Tom Herlihy	(631) 267-3486						
	Hooker	Charter Boat (6)	David Kohlus	(631) 668-5096						
	Hurry Up	Charter Boat (6)	Frank Braddick	(631) 668-5034						
	Joy Sea	Charter Boat (6)	Chuck Mallinson	(631) 668-5829						
	Julia Rose	Charter Boat (6)	Jeremiah P. Collins III	(631) 325-4665						
	Just Fish	Charter Boat (6)	Thomas J. Mullen	(516) 524-3939						
	Karen Sue	Charter Boat (6)	Bill Urvalek	(631) 668-4011						
	King Wayne	Open Party Boat	Wayne King	(631) 668-5843						
	Lady Grace IV	Charter Boat (6)	Mario Melito	(516) 768-6849						
	Lil' Ocean Annie	Charter Boat (6)	Alan R. Mott	(631) 549-2628						
Little Ocean Annie	Charter Boat (6)	John N. Lowe	(631) 462-2624							

# Bait and Tackle Store Directory

Location	Business	Address	Phone
AMAGANSETT	The Tackle Shop	Montauk Highway	(631) 234-7770
AMITYVILLE	Bob's Bat and Tackle Comb's Bait and Tackle	4 Wilson Avenue 74 Merrick Road	(631) 842-7573 (631) 264-3525
AQUEBOGUE	Warren's Tackle Center	Main Street	(631) 722-4898
BABYLON	Babylon Fishing Station	23 Port Place	(631) 669-9837
BAYPORT	Capt. T's Bait and Tackle	650 Montauk Hwy.	—
BAYSHORE	Burnetts Marina Willie K B & T	16 Bayview Ave. 20 Ackerson Street	(631) 665-9050 (631) 665-7414
BROAD CHANNEL	Smitty's Fishing Station (rentals available)	224 E 9 <sup>th</sup> Road	(718) 945-2642
BRONX	City Island Bait & Tackle Frank's Sport Shop	632 City Island Avenue 430 E Tremont Ave.	— (718) 885-2042
BROOKLYN	Bernie's Bait & Tackle Sheepshead Bay Bait & Tackle Stella Maris	3035 Emmons Ave. 3029 Emmons Ave. 2702 Emmons Ave.	(718) 646-7600 (718) 648-1310 (718) 646-9754
CENTER MORICHES	B & B Tackle and Sports	320 Main Street	(631) 878-9280
EAST HAMPTON	Mrs. Sam's Bait & Tackle	3 Mile Harbor Road	(631) 324-8686
EAST MORICHES	Harts Cove Bait & Tackle "Plus" Silly Lily Fishing Station (rentals available)	27 Maple Avenue 99 Adelaide Avenue	(631) 878-7514 (631) 878-0247
FREEPORT	Donart Custom Fishing Rods Freeport B & T Hudson Point Fishing Station Sea Isle Sports Center Woodclef Fishing Station	302A Guy Lombardo Ave. 315 S Main Street 301 Hudson Avenue 495 Guy Lombardo Ave. 447 Woodclef Avenue	(516) 378-8992 (516) 378-4988 (516) 867-9608 (516) 868-8855 (516) 378-8748
GLENWOOD LANDING	Duffy's B & T	58 Shore Road	(516) 676-9543
GREENPORT	A.P. White Bait Shop Greenport Bait & Tackle East End Bait and Tackle	First Street 331 Front Street 170 E Montauk Highway	(631) 477-0008 (631) 477-8268 (631) 728-1744
HAMPTON BAYS	Molnar's Landing	31 Alanson Lane	(631) 728-1860
HOWARD BEACH	Crossbay Bait & Tackle	16426 Crossbay Blvd	(718) 835-1018
HUNTINGTON STATION	Camp-Site Sports Four Winds Bait & Tackle	1877 New York Avenue 1457 New York Avenue	(631) 271-4969 (631) 421-1184
ISLAND PARK	Bay Park Fishing Station Ralph's Tackle & Sporting Goods	480A Reina Avenue 4195 Austin Blvd.	(516) 766-3110 (516) 432-9179
KINGS PARK	Terminal Tackle	120 Main Street	(631) 269-6005
LINDENHURST	Amy Isle Inc. Lindenhurst Bait & Tackle	846 S Wellwood Avenue 281 E Montauk Highway	— (631) 226-9030
LITTLE NECK	East Coast Fishing	254-22 Northern Blvd	(718) 631-2196
MASSAPEQUA PARK	Hook Line & Sinker	71 Altantic Avenue	—
MASTIC	Mastic Bait & Tackle	1586 Montauk Highway	(631) 281-9360
MASTIC BEACH	Dick's Bait & Tackle	286 Neighborhood Road	(631) 281-9070
MATTITUCK	Jamesport Bait and Tackle Mattituck Fishing Station	1335 Main Road 2275 Naugles Drive	(631) 298-5450 (631) 298-8399
MONTAUK	Freddies Bait & Tackle Gone Fishing Marina Johnny's Tackle Montauk Marine Basin Uihlein's Fishing Station (rentals available)	P.O. Box 2774 467 East Lake Drive 786 Montauk Highway West Lake Drive 444 West Lake Drive Ext	(631) 668-5520 (631) 668-3232 (631) 668-2940 (631) 668-5900 (631) 668-3799

Location	Business	Address	Phone
MOUNT SINAI	Westlake Fishing Lodge	West Lake Drive	(631) 668-6252
NEW SUFFOLK	Ralph's Fishing Station Captain Marty's Fishing Station (rentals available)	250 Harbor Beach 1 <sup>st</sup> Street & King Street	(516) 473-6655 (631) 734-6852
NEW YORK CITY	Capitol Fishing Tackle Co.	218 W 23 <sup>rd</sup> Street	(212) 929-6132
OAKDALE	J & H Sports Outlet	4112 Sunrise Highway	(631) 244-0600
OYSTER BAY	Oyster Bay Marine Supply	294 South Street	(516) 922-8010
PATCHOGUE	J & J Sports Mr. B's Bait & Tackle	265 W Main Street 298 Rte 112	(631) 654-2311 (631) 207-2277
POINT LOOKOUT	Scotty's Marina & Fishing Station	72 Bayside Drive	(516) 432-4665
RIVERHEAD	Ted's Fishing Station Edwards Sports Center Fisherman's Deli	143 Bayside Drive Rte 58 & E Main Street 1315 W Main Street	(631) 431-4193 (631) 727-4418 (631) 727-4291
ROCKY POINT	Rocky Point Fishing Station	30 Broadway Avenue	(631) 744-8330
SAG HARBOR	Tight Line Tackle	54 Bay Street (Sag Harbor Yacht Club)	(631) 725-0740
SAINT JAMES	Swaine's Bait & Tackle	534 North Country Rd.	(631) 584-5613
SEAFORD	Eastern Reel Service	3597 Merrick Road	(516) 221-9292
SHELTER ISLAND	Jack's Marine	188 N Ferry Road	(631) 749-0114
SHIRLEY	Smith Point Bait and Marine Supply	396 William Floyd Parkway	(631) 281-3766
SOUTHOLD	Wego Fishing Bait and Tackle	61850 Main Road	(631) 765-5013
STATEN ISLAND	Michaels B & T and Marine	187 Mansion Avenue	(718) 984-9733
WADING RIVER	Wading River Recreation	2034 North Country Rd	(631) 929-0364
WANTAGH	Causeway Bait and Tackle	3031 Merrick Road	(516) 642-7687
WOODSIDE	Peace Token Fishing Tackle	53-19 Roosevelt Ave	(718) 565-2376

Register your bait and tackle business by email at [sgrivern@cornell.edu](mailto:sgrivern@cornell.edu) or telephone (631) 727-3910, if you would like to be included in the next publication. *Disclaimer:* New York Sea Grant does not endorse the businesses mentioned and it is not liable for damages or loss resulting from errors or omissions.



# Boat Launch Ramp Locator

# Fishing Access

Location	Address	City	Phone	Access
<b>WESTERN LONG ISLAND SOUND</b>				
World's Fair Marina (1)	122-01 Northern Blvd.	Flushing, Queens	718- 478-0480	Flushing Bay, East River, Long Island Sound
Mill Dam Marina (2)	Mill Dam Road	Huntington	631-351-3089	Huntington Harbor, Northport Harbor Long Island Sound
<b>CENTRAL LONG ISLAND SOUND</b>				
<i>Note: Facilities in Smithtown are for residents, only. Brookhaven Town facilities may be used by non-residents for a higher fee. Contact Brookhaven Town (631) 451-6100 and Smithtown (631) 360-7643 for information.</i>				
Mount Sinai Marina (3)	Harbor Beach Road	Mt. Sinai	631- 928-0199	Mt. Sinai Harbor, Long Island Sound
<b>EASTERN LONG ISLAND SOUND</b>				
Mattituck Creek Boat Ramp	County Road 48	Mattituck	(631) 765-1801	Mattituck Creek, Great Peconic Bay
DEC Oysterponds Boat Ramp (4)	Main Road	East Marion	(631) 444-0439	Block Island Sound, Long Island Sound
<b>PECONIC ESTUARY/NORTH FORK</b>				
Orient-by-the-Sea (5)	Main Road	Orient	(631) 324-2424	Plum Gut
Strong's Marine (6)	Camp Mineola Road	Mattituck	(631) 298-4470	Great Peconic Bay
Cutchogue Harbor Marina Inc.	West Creek Avenue	Cutchogue	(631) 734-6993	Wickham Creek, Cutchogue Harbor, Great Peconic Bay
Port of Egypt Marine	Main Road	Southold	(631) 765-2445	Great Peconic Bay
New Suffolk Boat Ramp	First Avenue	New Suffolk	(631) 765-1800	Southold Bay
South Jamesport Boat Ramp (7)	Peconic Boulevard	South Jamesport	(631) 727-3200	Great Peconic Bay
<b>PECONIC ESTUARY/SHELTER ISLAND</b>				
Daniel Lord Road Ramp (8)	Daniel Lord Road	Shelter Island	(631) 749-0291	Shelter Island Sound, Block Island Sound
<b>PECONIC ESTUARY/SOUTH FORK</b>				
<i>Note: Many facilities in this area are provided for residents of Southampton and Quogue, only. Contact Southampton Town (631) 283-6000 and Quogue Village (631) 653-4498 for information.</i>				
Gone Fishing Marina (9)	East Lake Drive	Montauk	(631) 668-3232	Lake Montauk, Block Island Sound, Atlantic Ocean
Montauk Yatch Club	Star Island Road	Montauk	(631) 668-3100	Lake Montauk, Block Island Sound, Atlantic Ocean
<b>GREAT SOUTH BAY &amp; MORICHES BAY</b>				
Moriches Bay Waterway Access (10)	Moriches Island Road	East Moriches	(631)444-0439	Moriches Bay
Smith Point Marina (11)	Smith Point	Shirley	(613) 281-7788	Great South Bay, Narrow Bay, Moriches Bay
Hecksher State Park (12)	Hecksher Parkway	East Islip	(631) 581-2100	Great South Bay
Captree State Park (13)	Robert Moses Cuaseway	Babylon	(631) 581-2100	Great South Bay
Frost Boat Yard	Shore Road	Babylon	(631) 669-1645	Moriches Bay
Charlie's Marina	910 South Broadway	Lindenhurst	(631) 226-6250	Great South Bay
<b>MECOX BAY, SHINNECOCK BAY &amp; QUANTUCK CANAL</b>				
<i>Note: Many facilities in this area are provided for residents of Southampton and Quogue, only. Contact Southampton Town (631) 283-6000 and Quogue Village (631) 653-4498 for information.</i>				
Edward Warner 'Old Ponquoque Bridge' Marine Park (14)	Dune Road	Hampton Bays	(631) 283-6000	Shinnecock Bay
<b>SOUTH OYSTER BAY/JAMAICA BAY</b>				
Hempstead Town Marina (15)	Lido Boulevard	Point Lookout	(516) 431-9200	Reynolds Channel, Jones Inlet
Albany Avenue Boat Ramp (16)	Albany Avenue	Freeport	(516) 377-2314	Merrick River, Freeport Creek, Jones Inlet
Old Harbor Marina	Alder Place	Seaford	(516) 758-0358	Oyster Bay, Jones Inlet
Treasure Island Marine Basin	Ocean Avenue	Seaford	(516) 758-0358	Oyster Bay, Jones Inlet
Inwood Marina (17)	Bayswater Boulevard	Inwood	(516) 239-0945	Jamaica Bay
<b>FRESHWATER BOAT LAUNCH RAMPS</b>				
Lake Ronkonkoma Fishing Access Site (18)	Victory Drive	Ronkonkoma	(631) 444-0280	Lake Ronkonkoma
Lower Peconic River	Route 25	Riverhead	(631) 444-0280	Peconic River
Lower Yaphank Lake	Exit 67, off IIE, north on Route 21	Yaphank	(631) 444-0280	Yaphank Lake
Forge Pond/Peconic Lake	South River Rd., 1/2 mile east of Edwards Ave.	Calverton	(631) 444-0280	Peconic River/Forge Pond
Fort Pond	South Erie Street, off Edgamer Street	Montauk	(631) 444-0280	Fort Pond

This abbreviated directory was compiled from the NYS DEC publication, Boat Launch Ramps Long Island Region. Visit [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/marine/access/mrfaces.html](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/marine/access/mrfaces.html) and [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/fish/foe4cb1.html](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/fish/foe4cb1.html) to download the complete list. See page 7-8 for the site locations in parentheses.

Authority <sup>a</sup>	Phone
<b>NYS DEC Freshwater Unit</b>	
General Information, Access & Stocking	(631) 444-0280
Fishing & Hunting License	(631) 444-0273
<b>NYS DEC Marine Bureau</b>	
General Information	(631) 444-0435
Marine Permits	(631) 444-0470
Fishing Access	(631) 444-0439
<b>NYS Office of Parks</b>	
Long Island Region <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 669-1000
Belmont Lake State Park <sup>(f)</sup>	(631) 667-5055
Caleb Smith State Park <sup>(e)</sup>	(631) 265-1054
Captree State Park <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 669-0449
Caumsett State Park <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 423-1770
Connetquot State Park <sup>(e)</sup>	(631) 581-1005
Hecksher State Park <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 581-2100
Hither Hiller State Park <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 668-2461
Jones Beach State Park <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 785-1600
Montauk State Park <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 668-2461
Robert Moses State Park <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 669-0470
Sunken Meadow State Park <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 269-4333
Wildwood State Park <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 929-4314
<b>Nassau County Parks, Recreation &amp; Museums</b>	
General Information	(516) 575-0200
Bay Park <sup>(d)</sup>	(516) 593-5855
Inwood Park <sup>(d)</sup>	(516) 571-7894
Wantagh Park <sup>(d)</sup>	(516) 785-7777
<b>Suffolk County Parks, Recreation &amp; Cons.</b>	
General Information	(631) 854-4949
Blydenburgh County Park <sup>(e)</sup>	(631) 369-4966
Southaven County Park <sup>(e)</sup>	(631) 854-1415
<b>Town Municipalities</b>	
Babylon <sup>(d)</sup>	(631) 369-4966
Brookhaven <sup>(d)</sup>	(631) 854-1415
East Hampton <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 329-3078
Hempstead <sup>(d)</sup>	(516) 292-9000
	(516) 431-9200
Huntington <sup>(d)</sup>	(631) 351-3089
Islip <sup>(c)</sup>	(631) 224-5648
North Hempstead <sup>(d)</sup>	(631) 288-1654
Oyster Bay <sup>(d)</sup>	
Harry Tappen Beach	(516) 671-0484
Theodore Roosevelt Beach	(516) 922-5812
Tobay Beach & Boat Basin	(516) 679-0720
John J. Burns Park	(516) 797-5010
Riverhead <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 727-5744
Shelter Island <sup>(d)</sup>	(631) 749-1166
Smithtown <sup>(d)</sup>	(631) 269-1122
Southampton <sup>(b)</sup>	(631) 283-6011 or (631) 287-5717
Southold <sup>(d)</sup>	(631) 765-5182 or (631) 765-1801
<b>Cities &amp; Villages</b>	
Amityville <sup>(c)</sup>	(631) 264-6000
Babylon <sup>(c)</sup>	(631) 669-1500
Bellport <sup>(c)</sup>	(631) 854-1415
Freeport <sup>(c)</sup>	(516) 377-2314
Quogue <sup>(c)</sup>	(631) 653-4498
Sag Harbor <sup>(c)</sup>	(631) 725-2368
Westhampton Beach <sup>(c)</sup>	(631) 288-1654
<b>Other</b>	
Gateway National Recreation Area (Ranger Station)	(718) 474-4600

<sup>a</sup>Key to codes:- (b) fishing access, including boat launch ramp and four wheel drive permit; (c) boat launch ramp/permit; (d) beach fishing/boat launching; (e) fishing access; and (f) row boat rental