



2005 VERMONT DIGEST

HUNTING, FISHING & TRAPPING LAWS



The purpose of Vermont fish and wildlife laws is to help protect, manage, control and conserve fish, wildlife and furbearing animals of the state in the interest of public welfare. It is the responsibility of each individual who hunts, fishes or traps to know the fish and wildlife laws. This digest provides the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department's interpretation of these laws. It is formatted to make the laws easier to read and understand. For a complete wording of Vermont's Fish & Wildlife Statutes and Regulations, consult Vermont Statutes Annotated, Part 4, Title 10, Volume 11, available at town clerk's offices and on the Web at www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/statutes2.htm. Any questions you have regarding these laws should be directed to your local game warden.

Vermont Telecommunications Relay Service

VTRS has trained people who will relay messages between hard-of-hearing, speech-impaired or deaf people who have a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) and people who can hear. This service may be used to call the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department.

If you have a TDD

and wish to call a hearing person without a TDD:

Dial 1-800-253-0191.

This document is also available upon request in large print or Braille format.

Many Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department programs receive federal aid in fish and/or wildlife restoration. Under Title 6 of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or handicap. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility described above, or if you desire further information, please write to the Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Cover photos: Front- Michael Munn of Warren, VT with his 211 lb., 10-point buck taken high in the Green Mountains. (by John Hall); Back- Wayne Laroche

From the Commissioner

Hunters and anglers started America's conservation programs more than a century ago. Here in Vermont, it was avid hunters and anglers who insisted on laws protecting fish and wildlife, and it was our hunters and anglers who supported hiring game wardens to enforce the laws.

Before there were fish and wildlife laws in Vermont, the motive of personal gain was the strongest reason for hunting and fishing. Some early settlers made all or most of their living by commercial hunting, trapping or fishing. Most others supplemented their income and food supplies by taking fish and wildlife whenever the opportunity arose. This was nothing new. This was a way of living that goes back as far as human history can be traced. The problem in 1800's Vermont was that unregulated hunting and fishing by the large number of settlers placed far greater demand on Vermont's fish and wildlife resources than could be sustained.

By 1850, Vermont's fish and wildlife resources went from being what has been described in town histories as bountiful to the point of severe over-exploitation. Many species including white-tailed deer, moose, beaver, fisher, marten, turkey, sea run Atlantic salmon, wolves, and mountain lion had all but disappeared from the state. By 1900, passenger pigeons, which were so abundant they commonly broke the branches from trees when they landed to roost at night, were gone forever.

Having laws and law enforcement to protect fish and wildlife has no value if there are no fish and wildlife to protect. The work of our fish and wildlife biologists is to study the needs of fish and wildlife and find ways to manage fish and wildlife populations so a balance can be found between what the animals need for habitat and what the people want from fish and wildlife resources. This is a challenging task because habitat and animal populations are constantly changing and because people have different interests in these resources.

Vermont's biologists have been responsible for successful recovery and management of nearly all species that early settlers found in Vermont. The whitetail is back as well as the moose, turkey, fisher, peregrine falcon, beaver, osprey and others. Today we have new challenges. Moose and deer populations have exceeded the carrying capacity of the land in some areas. The need to manage animal populations and their habitats is better accepted than ever before. Still, biologists have much to learn and share with the public about their work.

I hope you will join us in supporting good stewardship of Vermont's fish and wildlife resources in the years ahead.

Sincerely,



Wayne A. Laroche, Commissioner

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GENERAL INFORMATION

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The Fish & Wildlife Board has seven members appointed by the Governor. Each member represents two counties and serves for six years. The Board enacts Fish & Wildlife regulations.

	Counties Represented
J. Rob Borowske, Chairman 64 Warren Street, Barre, VT 05641 (802)-476-3375 rob2vt@aol.com Term: March 20, 2001 - Feb. 28, 2007	Washington
John Barrows 64 Pineneedle Road, Stockbridge, VT 05772 (802)-746-8340 Term: March 1, 1999 - Feb. 28, 2005	Rutland
Byron Fish 1455 E. Echo Lake Road, Charleston, VT 05872 (802)-723-6385 bfish@sover.net Term: March 1, 1999 - Feb. 28, 2005	Orleans
Albert Floyd Main Street, PO Box 3, Randolph Center, VT 05061 (802)-728-5333 afloyd@innevi.com Term: April 3, 2001 - Feb. 28, 2007	Orange
Dana Kittell 170 New Street, East Fairfield, VT 05448 (802)-827-3891 Dkittell@kbscpa.com Term: October 1, 2003 - February 28, 2007	Franklin
Robert Shannon Po Box 960, Stowe VT 05672 (802) 253-0004 Angler@flyrodshop.com Term: March 19, 2003 - February 28, 2009	Lamoille
A. Robert Twitchell 1475 Route 100, South Londonderry, VT 05155 (802)-824-5295 Term: March 19, 2003 - February 28, 2009	Windham
Wayne Barrows Bk 16, Quechee VT 05059 (802) 295-1050 Barrowsal@aol.com Term: August 9, 2004 - February 28, 2010	Windsor
Walt Driscoll 550 Charleston Road, Island Pond VT 05846 (802) 723-6290 Term: August 9, 2004 - February 28, 2006	Essex

	Counties Represented
Claude Rainville 505 West Hill Road, Lincoln VT 05443 (802) 453-3169 claudeandpat@gmavt.net Term: August 9, 2004 - February 28, 2010	Addison
John L. Roy 25 Tracy Road, South Hero VT 05486 (802) 372-4369 Leantoofarm@aol.com Term: August 9, 2004 - February 28, 2006	Grand Isle
Bruce Therrien Po Box 1153, Hardwick VT 05843 (802) 472-5935 BTHERRIEN7@aol.com Term: August 9, 2004 - February 28, 2008	Caledonia
Susan Winter 1492 Main Street, Colchester VT 05446 (802) 878-4942 swinter@together.net Term: August 9, 2004 - February 28, 2008	Chittenden
Joyce "Birdie" Wyman 2989 Route 313 West, Arlington VT 05250 (802) 375-6018 jawyman@adelphia.net Term: August 9, 2004 - February 28, 2010	Bennington

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or www.vtfwdsales.com

G2.0 FISH & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION



Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department
Agency of Natural Resources
 103 South Main Street, 10 South
 Waterbury, Vermont 05671-0501
 (802)-241-3700
 (802)-241-3295 (FAX)
 Hours: 7:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday
 Internet: www.vtfishandwildlife.com

The MISSION of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department is the conservation of fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the people of Vermont. In order to accomplish this mission, the integrity, diversity and vitality of all natural systems must be protected.

G2.1 COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE (802)-241-3730

Commissioner	Wayne Laroche
Commissioner's Assistant	Lucy Herring
Special Assistant	Susan Nadeau
Operations Director	Ronald Regan
General Counsel	Stephen K. Hill
Business Manager	Sherri Yacono
Financial Technician	Fonda Papineau

Licensing Section	(802)-241-3703
Administrative Assistant	Sherry Barrows
License Technician	Sally Morse

G2.2 LAW ENFORCEMENT (802)-241-3727

Colonel	Robert Rooks
Law Enforcement Assistant	Maureen Allen

G2.3 FISHERIES (802)-241-3700

Director	Eric Palmer
----------	-------------

Fish Culture & Fish Health	(802)-241-3702
Program Chief	Thomas Wiggins
Fish Health Biologist	Thomas Jones
Fish Health Biologist	Barb Johnston
Administrative Assistant	Gloria Murphy

Aquatic Habitat Unit	(802)-241-3702
Aquatic Habitat Scientist	Rod Wentworth
Aquatic Habitat Scientist	Christa Alexander
Administrative Assistant	Gloria Murphy

G2.4 PUBLIC OUTREACH (802)-241-3700

Information Manager	John Hall
Education Manager	Mark Scott
Outreach Coordinator	Priscilla Stutz-Lumbra
Administrative Secretary	Jan Finn
Program Services Clerk	Charlee Drury
Conservation Camp Administrator	Morgan Jones
Information Technology Specialist	Tom Merrifield
Hunter Education	(802)-241-3720
Hunter Education Coordinator	Chris Saunders
Hunter Education Training Coordinator	Ron Frey

G2.5 WILDLIFE DIVISION (802)-241-3700

Director	Craig McLaughlin
Zoologist	Mark Ferguson
Database Biologist	Everett Marshall
Ecologist	Eric Sorenson

G2.6 REGIONAL FACILITIES

Fish & Wildlife Laboratory	
Roxbury, VT 05669	(802)-485-7566
	(802)-485-7567
Fisheries Biologist	Rich Kirm
Fisheries Biologist	Anne Hunter

Fish Culture Stations	
Bald Hill	(802)-467-3660
Manager	Christian Thompson
Technician	John Talbot
Bennington	(802)-447-2844
Manager	Monty Walker
Specialist	Brook Bicking
Specialist	Todd Lincoln
Specialist	Jeremy Miller
Grand Isle	(802)-372-3171
Manager	Kevin Kelsey
Maintenance Engineer	Dmitri Hudak
Specialist	Kristi Clark
Specialist	James Bellinghri
Specialist	Mark Roche
Specialist	Sean Hilpl
Specialist	Greg Owens
Specialist	Michelle Sprano
Roxbury	(802)-485-7568
Manager	Ralph Barber
Specialist	Dudley Leavitt
Specialist	Jeremy Whalen
Salisbury	(802)-352-4371
Manager	Tom Dumont
Specialist	Gabriel Cameron
Specialist	Michael Ellis
Specialist	Alan Morehouse

Barre District Natural Resources Office

5 Perry Street, Suite 40,
Barre, VT 05641

(802)-476-0199
(802)-476-0129 (f)
John Buck
John Austin
Tim Appleton
Bob Popp
Leif Richardson

Wildlife Biologist
Wildlife Biologist
Fish & Wildlife Technician
Botanist
Lands Ecologist

Essex District Natural Resources Office

111 West Street,
Essex Jct., VT 05452

(802)-878-1564
(802)-879-3871 (f)
Brian Chipman
Bernie Pientka

Fisheries Biologist
Fisheries Biologist
Nongame & Natural Heritage
Coordinator
Wildlife Biologist
Wildlife Biologist
Fisheries Field Coordinator
Secretary

Steve Parren
Bill Crenshaw
John Gobeille
David Gibson
Tammy Gratton

Rutland District Natural Resources Office

271 North Main Street, Suite 215
Rutland, VT 05701

(802)-786-0040
(802) 786-3870 (f)
Douglas Lawrence
Chet MacKenzie
Shawn Good
Scott Darling
Douglas Blodgett
Debby Wood

District Chief Warden
Fisheries Biologist
Fisheries Biologist
Wildlife Biologist
Wildlife Biologist
Secretary

St. Johnsbury District Natural Resources Office

1229 Portland Street, Suite 201
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819-2099

(802)-751-0100
(802)-748-6687 (f)
Ken Denton
John Kapusta
Leonard Gerardi
Tom Decker
Cedric Alexander
Paul Hamelin
Michele Eynon

District Chief Warden
Lt. Game Warden
Fisheries Biologist
Wildlife Biologist
Wildlife Biologist
Wildlife Habitat Biologist
Secretary

Springfield District Natural Resources Office

100 Mineral Street, Suite 302
Springfield, VT 05156

(802)-885-8855
(802)-885-8890 (f)
Dane Hathaway
Kenneth Cox
Jay McMenemy
Kimberly Royar
Forrest Hammond
Chris Bernier
Melissa Currier

District Chief Warden
Fisheries Biologist
Fisheries Biologist
Wildlife Biologist
Wildlife Biologist
Fish & Wildlife Technician
Secretary

Dead Creek Waterfowl Management Area

Addison, VT 05491

(802)-759-2398
David Sausville
John Mlcuch

Waterfowl Area Specialist
Waterfowl Area Technician

G2.7 STATE GAME WARDENS**Northeastern District**

Radio No.	Warden/ Dist. Chief*	State Police Office Tel.	Home Tel. (802)	Residence
976	Lt. Denton, Kenneth*	748-3111	684-2219	Danville
972	Lt. John Kapusta	748-3111	472-5055	East Hardwick
960	Sgt. Gregory, David	748-3111	626-4390	Lyndon Center
956	Amsden, Dennis	748-3111	751-7695	Danville
936	Carvey, Kevin	748-3111	584-3985	Groton
979	Fink, Paul	766-2211	266-8937	Canaan
980	Fowler, Sean	748-3111	751-0459	St. Johnsbury
968	Klein, Kim	334-8881	754-9464	Irasburg
940	Lewis, Robert	334-8881	766-8824	Derby
965	Mann, Bradley	334-8881	895-2993	Morgan
943	Shopland, Russell	334-8881	472-3040	East Hardwick

Southern District

Radio No.	Warden/ Dist. Chief*	State Police Office Tel.	Home Tel. (802)	Residence
987	Lt. Hathaway, Dane*	257-7101	257-7920	Brattleboro
986	Sgt. Gaudreau, Paul	442-5421	394-2973	W. Rupert
935	Buttle, Travis	442-5421	442-4383	Bennington
961	Dengler, Wayne	257-7101	869-4961	Saxtons River
967	Eckhardt, Greg	773-9101	287-9367	Poultney
982	Price, Kelly	257-7101	251-2171	Brattleboro
981	Scribner, George	257-7101	259-3551	Belmont
958	Selby, Meira	257-7101	464-1420	West Dover

Central District

Radio No.	Warden/ Dist. Chief*	State Police Office Tel.	Home Tel. (802)	Residence
954	Lt. Lawrence, Douglas*	234-9933	728-4220	Randolph
947	Sgt. Isabelle, Donald	773-9101	483-2017	Pittsford
941	Connor, Chris	234-9933	296-2240	W. Hartford
938	Eastman, Evan	234-9933	333-4815	Fairlee
959	Gallant, Keith	234-9933	728-9215	Braintree
983	Rowden, David	773-9101	247-3667	Brandon
942	Sterling, Robert	773-9101	265-4602	Fair Haven
946	Whitlock, Dale	773-9101	453-7399	Middlebury

Northwestern District

Radio No.	Warden/ Dist. Chief*	State Police Office Tel.	Home Tel. (802)	Residence
948	Lt. LeCours, David*	878-7111	479-3465	Barre
949	Sgt. Lutz, Robert	524-5993	524-7438	Georgia
970	Clark, Christopher	878-7111	434-3463	Huntington
978	Cook, Thomas	878-7111	899-6716	Underhill Ctr.
974	Reinhardt, Dennis	635-7036	253-0974	Moscow
945	Rosenberger, Lawrence	878-7111	893-3876	Milton
937	Smiley, Curtis	229-9191	476-4485	Plainfield
969	Swainbank, Daniel	524-5993	868-3295	Swanton
984	Szymanowski, Trevor	229-9191	479-7590	Barre
952	Wedin, Carl	524-5993	868-9110	Sheldon

G2.8 U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Lake Champlain Office	(802)-872-0629
Law Enforcement	(802)-879-1859
White River Hatchery	(802)-234-5400
Pittsford Hatchery	(802)-483-6618
Missisquoi Refuge	(802)-868-4781
Nulhegan Basin Refuge	(802)-962-5240

G2.9 DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS, PARKS & RECREATION

103 South Main Street Waterbury, VT 05671-0601	(802)-241-3655
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G2.10 WILDLIFE SERVICES

U.S.D.A., APHIS

617 Comstock Road, Suite 9 Berlin, VT 05602	(802)-223-8697
--	----------------

Rabies Hotline 1-800-472-2437

G2.11 GREEN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST

The Green Mountain National forest is a federal, public forest covering 375,000 acres in Vermont. Access to fishing and hunting is open to everyone. Vermont hunting and fishing regulations apply. For information, contact one of the following offices:

Green Mountain National Forest Headquarters

231 North Main Street Rutland, VT 05701	802-747-6700 802-747-6765 (TDD)
--	------------------------------------

Middlebury Ranger District

1007 Rt. 7 South Middlebury, VT 05753	802-388-6688 (voice/TDD)
--	--------------------------

Manchester Ranger District

2538 Depot Street Manchester Center, VT 05255	802-362-2307 (voice/TDD)
--	--------------------------

Rochester Ranger District

99 Ranger Road Rochester, VT 05767-9431	802-767-4261 (voice/TDD)
--	--------------------------

G2.12 OPERATION GAME THIEF

Call toll free 1-800-75ALERT (1-800-752-5378) to report any fish or wildlife violation.

If violation is in progress, you are encouraged to call the nearest Vermont State Police Barracks for a State Game Warden to be dispatched to the area immediately.

A crackdown on poaching: Operation Game Thief is a nonprofit joint project of the Vermont Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs and the Fish & Wildlife Department, which pays rewards to citizens who turn in poachers. Callers do not have to reveal their names, testify in court or sign a deposition. Rewards are paid if an arrest is made or if a citation is issued; rewards are not contingent upon getting a conviction.

If you see a poaching incident, **report it**. The toll-free number is **1-800-75ALERT**.

G2.13 SEASONS LIST 2005-VT Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Dates

(All Dates Inclusive)*

FISHING

Trout & Landlocked Salmon	April 9 - Oct. 30
Trout & Landlocked Salmon (Lake Champlain)	No Closed Season
Largemouth & Smallmouth Bass	June 11 - Nov. 30
Catch & Release - Lakes and Ponds	April 9 - June 10
Pickereel, N. Pike, Yellow Perch	No Closed Season
Walleye (Lake Champlain, Lake Carmi, & certain areas of Lamoille & Missisquoi Rivers)	May 1, 2004 - March 15, 2005 & May 7, 2005 - March 15, 2006
Walleye (all other waters except Connecticut River)	No Closed Season
Smelt	May 29, 2004 - March 31, 2005 & May 28, 2005 - March 31, 2006
Smelt (Lake Champlain)	No Closed Season
Free Fishing Day	June 11, 2005

BIG GAME HUNTING

Deer (Bow & Arrow Only)	To Be Set
Youth Deer Weekend	Nov. 5 - Nov. 6
Deer (16 Day Regular Season)	Nov. 12 - Nov. 27
Deer (Muzzleloader)	To Be Set
Black Bear	Sept. 1 - Nov. 16
Youth Turkey Weekend	April 23 - April 24
Turkey	Spring May 1 - May 31
	Fall seasons vary by wildlife management units
Moose	October hunting season set annually; permit lottery held each year

SMALL GAME HUNTING

Hare, Rabbit	Sept. 25, 2004 - March 13, 2005 & Sept. 24, 2005 - March 12, 2006
Gray Squirrel	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31
Bobwhite Quail	No Closed Season
Ruffed Grouse (Partridge)	Sept. 24 - Dec. 31
Woodcock	Set Annually
Pheasant	Sept. 24 - Dec. 31
Crow	March 14 - April 30 & August 16 - October 29

FURBEARER HUNTING

Bobcat	Jan. 10 - Feb. 7
Red & Gray Fox	Oct. 23, 2004 - Feb. 13, 2005 & Oct. 22, 2005 - Feb. 12, 2006
Raccoon	Oct. 8 - Dec. 31
Muskrat	March 20 - April 19
Coyote	No Closed Season

FURBEARER TRAPPING

Mink, Skunk, Red & Gray Fox, Raccoon, Coyote	Oct. 22 - Dec. 31
Otter	October 23, 2004 - February 26, 2005 & October 22, 2005 - February 25, 2006
Muskrat	October 23, 2004 - April 19, 2005 & October 22, 2005 - April 19, 2006
Fisher	Dec. 1-31
Bobcat	Dec. 1 - 16
Beaver	Dec. 1, 2004 - February 26, 2005 & Dec. 1, 2005 - February 25, 2006
Marten	No Open Season

*These are general season dates. Read the Digest of Hunting, Fishing & Trapping Laws for more information and exceptions.

G3.0 LICENSE INFORMATION

G3.1 LICENSE FEES

Resident

Fishing (under age 15 no license needed)	\$ 20.00
Youth Fishing (ages 15-17)	8.00
Three-Day Fishing*	10.00
Hunting	16.00
Youth Hunting (under age 18)	8.00
Combination	29.00
Youth Combination (under age 18)	12.00
Trapping (sold at Waterbury office)	20.00
Youth Trapping (sold at Waterbury office/under age 18)	10.00
Archery-Deer (hunting license needed)	17.00
Turkey (hunting licenses needed)	17.00
Muzzleloader-Deer (hunting license needed)	17.00
Permanent license (sold at Waterbury office/65 or older)	36.00

Nonresident

Fishing (under age 15 no license needed)	\$ 41.00
Youth Fishing (ages 15-17)	15.00
One-Day Fishing*	15.00
Three-Day Fishing*	20.00
Seven-Day Fishing*	30.00
Hunting	90.00
Youth Hunting (under age 18)	25.00
Combination	120.00
Youth Combination (under age 18)	30.00
Trapping (sold at Waterbury office)	300.00
Small Game**	40.00
Archery-Deer (hunting license needed)	25.00
Archery Only-Deer (hunting license NOT needed)	60.00
Turkey (hunting license needed)	25.00
Muzzleloader-Deer (hunting license needed)	25.00

* Term Licenses: All dates are inclusive and consecutive.

** Small Game Licenses: Entitles the holder to take small game, furbearers and other wild animals (except big game) by any lawful means other than a trap.

Resident or Nonresident

Vermont Waterfowl Stamp	\$ 5.00
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Both Federal and State Waterfowl Stamps are needed for waterfowl hunting by anyone 16 or older.

A person of any age engaged in fishing, hunting or taking any wild animals must be properly licensed, except as listed below under exceptions. Wild animals are defined by law as ALL animals, including birds, amphibians, and reptiles, other than domestic animals.

G3.2 EXCEPTIONS

(a) A resident owner of land in Vermont, his or her spouse, and minor children may hunt on and take fish from waters within the boundary of that land without a license. The hunting and fishing must be done according to regulations. A nonresident owner of land has equal privilege if his or her land is NOT posted.

(b) Any person under 15 years of age may take fish according to regulations without a license.

(c) **Free Fishing Day. Saturday, June 11**, is Free Fishing Day in Vermont this year. Anyone, resident or nonresident, may fish without a license. All legal fishing methods and limits still apply. Free Fishing Day is intended to introduce first-time fishermen to a healthful and fun Vermont pastime.

G3.3 MILITARY PERSONNEL

(a) If applying for a hunting license, a copy of a current or previous hunting license from any state or province or a hunter education certificate is required.

(b) A Vermont resident who is on active duty with the armed forces of the United States may apply in person or through the mail to the Waterbury Fish & Wildlife office for a free fishing, hunting or combination license. This does not apply to members of the reserve components who are not on active federal duty. When applying you must submit a copy of your current Leave and Earnings Statement (LES), the front and back of your DD Form 2 (ID Card) and a copy of the orders placing you on active duty with the federal component. This provision only applies during the period of active federal service.

(c) A nonresident member of the armed forces on active duty, stationed in Vermont, with proper military documents, may apply for resident licenses from local agents.

G3.4 RESIDENT STATUS

(a) In order to obtain resident licenses, a person must have lived in Vermont for the six months immediately prior to applying for a license and NOT claimed residence elsewhere for any other reason. An applicant for a resident lifetime license must have been a resident for at least 12 months or must be a dependent of a resident.

(b) A nonresident student who is enrolled in a high school, college or university within the state is entitled to a resident fishing, hunting or combination license. To qualify, the student must have successfully completed two successive semesters at his or her school or college, must present an admission card, and must pay the resident fee. If applying for a hunting license, a copy of a current or previous license from any state or province or a hunter education certificate is required.

G3.5 PURCHASING LICENSES

(a) **Resident and nonresident licenses** may be purchased from the Fish & Wildlife website (www.vtfishandwildlife.com), sporting goods stores, convenience stores and some town clerks and at the Fish & Wildlife office in Waterbury, 802-241-3700. Licenses also may be purchased in person and by mail from the Waterbury office (address listed in **G2.0**).

(b) If you lose your license, the original issuing agent can replace it for a fee of \$5.00. If the agent is no longer selling licenses, you may apply to Fish & Wildlife in Waterbury, 802-241-3703.

(c) Licenses expire on December 31. Exception: the fur buyer's license and the Vermont waterfowl stamp are valid July 1–June 30.

(d) The collection of social security numbers for recreational licenses is required by 42 United States Code §405 (c)(2)(C) and 666 (a)(13), the Social Security Act. This federal requirement is related to child support enforcement. Vermont Fish & Wildlife, when notified of a court order issued under the provisions of 15 V.S.A. §798, must suspend, in accordance with 10 V.S.A. App. §16, all licenses it has issued to an individual.

G3.6 PERMANENT LICENSES

Any Vermont resident who is 65 or older may apply for a permanent license in person or through the mail to the Waterbury Fish & Wildlife office (address listed in **G2.0**). Apply on the same form as the current annual licenses.

If a permanent license holder wishes to hunt for a second archery or muzzleloader deer, he/she must purchase a regular annual archery or muzzleloader license.

If applying for a permanent hunting, archery, or trapping license, a copy of a previous or current hunting, archery, or trapping license from any state or Canadian province or a hunter education certificate is required.

A permanent license holder may receive a new free permanent license when the tags have been used or when the license is worn. Permanent license holders should wait until all of the hunting seasons are over to replace a license when the tags have been used.

If a permanent license has been lost or stolen, it can be replaced for a fee of \$5.00 at the Waterbury office (address in **G2.0**).

G3.7 PERMANENT DISABILITY LICENSES

(a) A legally blind person who is a Vermont resident may apply for a free permanent fishing license. Documentation from the Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired is required.

(b) A Vermont resident who is paraplegic may receive a free permanent fishing or combination license, if qualified, with the proper proof of disability as required. Forms are available at the Waterbury office (address in **G2.0**).

(c) A Vermont resident who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and who is, or ever has been, 100% disabled due to a service connected disability, may receive a free fishing or combination license, if qualified, upon presentation of a specific letter from the Veterans Administration. To see if you qualify for the license, call the Veterans Benefits Section at 1-800-827-1000.

G3.8 LIFETIME LICENSES

A resident or nonresident lifetime fishing, hunting, or combination fishing and hunting license may be obtained from the Fish & Wildlife Department. Call or write the Waterbury office (contact information in **G2.0**) for more information and an application. Fees are as follows:

- for children under 1 year old = 5X current adult license price.
- for children 1-15 years old = 15X current adult license price.
- for adults 16-24 years old = 30X current adult license price.
- for adults 25-64 years old = 25X current adult license price.

G3.9 HUNTING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

(A) General Requirements

An applicant for a hunting or combination license must present either:

- A previous or current hunting or combination license from any state or Canadian province, or
- A certificate or a letter of proof showing satisfactory completion of an approved hunter safety course from Vermont or any other state or province, or
- Other satisfactory proof of prior license or hunter safety certification. A person may be able to obtain a copy of the license from the clerk or agent where the last license was purchased, or a notarized statement signed by the clerk or agent is sufficient proof.
- A person under age 16 must have written permission given by his or her parent or guardian and signed in the presence of the issuing agent in order to obtain a hunting license.
- **NOTE**— Federal firearms laws, found at 18 USCA Section 922, prohibit certain individuals, including those convicted of felonies or any domestic violence offense, those subject to a final relief from abuse order and unlawful users of controlled substances from possessing center fire and rim fire firearms. For a complete list of prohibitions, contact the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives at 802-951-6593.

(B) Archery License Requirements

In order to purchase an archery license, a person must present a certificate of satisfactory completion of a bow hunter education course in Vermont or another state or a province of Canada, or an archery license from Vermont or another state or a province of Canada valid for any year, or other satisfactory proof that the applicant has held an archery license.

(C) Trapping License Requirements

The law requires that an applicant for a trapping license must present:

- A previous or current trapping license from any state or Canadian province, or
- A certificate showing satisfactory completion of a trapper education course, or
- Other satisfactory proof that the applicant has previously held a trapping license

(D) Hunter Education Courses/Information Line

A recorded list of upcoming hunter education courses is available online at www.vtfishandwildlife.com and by calling the Hunter Information Line at **800-718-HUNT**.

G3.10 LICENSE POSSESSION

Appropriate licenses must be carried while hunting, fishing, trapping or transporting fish, game or furbearers. The licenses must be exhibited on demand of a State Game Warden or other enforcement officer, or the owner of the land on which such person is hunting, fishing or trapping.

G3.11 STATE BORDER REQUIREMENTS

A person with a resident Vermont fishing license may take fish anywhere in the Connecticut River, subject to the regulations of Vermont and New Hampshire. Hunting licenses for both residents and nonresidents are only valid to the New Hampshire state boundary, which is the low water mark on the Vermont side of the Connecticut River. For Lake Champlain fishing license information, see **F2.1**.

G3.12 LICENSE REVOCATION

10 V.S.A. Sect. 4502—the “Uniform Point System”—provides that hunting, fishing and trapping licenses will be revoked based on the number of points received when a person is convicted of violating a fish or wildlife law.

(A) Suspensions:

- For 10 to 14 points accumulated in 5 years:
1 year suspension
- For 15 to 19 points accumulated in 5 years:
2 year suspension
- For more than 20 points accumulated in 5 years:
3 year suspension
- Conviction of carelessly or negligently wounding a person by gunshot, or manslaughter by the careless and negligent use of firearms, will, by statute, revoke the hunting license privilege or the right to obtain such license for five years

(B) Remedial Course:

A person whose license is revoked with 15 or more points accumulated in five years shall successfully complete a remedial course designed to teach hunters, trappers and anglers correct legal and ethical behavior while hunting, trapping and fishing in Vermont. The remedial course shall be approved by the commissioner, conducted by the department and cost \$100.

(C) Suspension Per Family Court Orders

Hunting, fishing and trapping licenses and permits issued by the Fish & Wildlife Department may be suspended for failure to comply with child support orders of the Family Court.

(D) Federal Firearms Law

It is illegal under Federal law for anyone convicted of a felony, or any domestic violence offense, to possess center-fire or rimfire firearms.

G4.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

G4.1 DEFINITIONS

“Take” and “Taking” mean pursuing, shooting, hunting, killing, capturing, trapping, disturbing, harrying, worrying, or wounding snaring and netting fish, birds and quadrupeds. It includes placing, setting, drawing or using any net or other device commonly used to take fish or wild animals, whether they result in taking or not. It includes every attempt to take and every act of assistance to another person in taking or attempting to take fish or wild animals. When taking is allowed by law, the taking shall be by lawful means in a lawful manner.

G4.2 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Camping and Trespass: It is illegal to park, drive or camp on another person’s land without permission of the landowner. You must immediately leave the property when the landowner requests it, whether the property is posted or not. Roadside or public highway turnouts are not legal for overnight camping.

Failure to Appear or Respond: Arrest warrants will be issued and licenses will be revoked for failure to appear in court to answer a Fish & Wildlife ticket or failure to send the ticket to the court, if a personal appearance is not required.

Importation of Wildlife: It is illegal to bring live wild mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, or fish into Vermont without previously obtaining an importation permit from the Fish & Wildlife Department. Regulations are available from the department (see contact information in **G2.0**).

Interfering with Hunters, Fishermen and Trappers: It is illegal to intentionally interfere with someone who is lawfully taking fish or wild animals, or to disrupt the taking of any fish or wild animal by harassing or disturbing the fish or animal.

Interstate Highways: No one may legally travel on foot within the right-of-way or cross boundary fences along interstate highways. Rest areas and pullouts are NOT access areas for hunting, fishing or entering on adjacent lands unless posted as such.

Motor Vehicles: Motor vehicles, including motorcycles, ATVs (All Terrain Vehicles) or snowmobiles may NOT be used on State Wildlife Management Areas, except that snowmobiles may be used on trails designated for their use.

Private Roads and Lands: Law prohibits obstructing private driveways, barways, or gateways with motor vehicles. People shall not drive over private lands or enter these lands for the purpose of camping without the permission of the landowner or rightful occupant, nor may they drive over roads marked as private.

Season Dates: All season dates in this book are inclusive.

Snowmobiles: A snowmobile may not be operated in a way to harass deer or other wild game (23 V.S.A. 3206). Wild animals may not be taken by shooting from a snowmobile.

State Campgrounds: It is illegal to display or discharge fire-crackers or other explosive devices, firearms, air rifles or pistols, gas weapons, slingshots, crossbows, or bow and arrows (except by special permit) in any developed recreation area from May 1 to October 15. It is illegal to discharge a firearm within 500 feet of any occupied dwelling, residence or barn, leanto, picnic shelter, or other such building in any park or recreation area.

State Lands: Camping on state land is prohibited except in designated camping areas.

Violators: In addition to the person who actually violates the regulations for hunting, fishing, and trapping, anyone who offers advice or assistance in a violation, or who knowingly shares in the proceeds, shall be punished as a principal violator.

G4.3 REIMBURSEMENT FOR ILLEGALLY TAKEN FISH OR WILDLIFE

In addition to any penalties imposed by the court, anyone who is convicted of illegally taking, destroying, or possessing wild animals must pay, as restitution, into the fish and wildlife fund no more than the following amounts:

Big Game.....	\$1,000.00
Endangered Threatened Species (T10, 5401)	1,000.00
Small Game.....	250.00
Fish	25.00

G4.4 POSTED PROPERTY

Whenever possible, the hunter or fisherman should check with the landowner before going onto his or her land.

The right to hunt or fish on privately owned land is not guaranteed by your hunting or fishing license. The privilege of using private land for your recreation is extended to you by the generosity of the landowner. It is illegal to damage or remove posters prohibiting hunting, fishing or trapping.

Safety Zone. The law provides that a property owner may establish a 500-foot Safety Zone around any occupied dwelling, residence, barn, stable or other building. This Safety Zone is established with signs provided by the Fish & Wildlife Department and maintained by the owner. All shooting is prohibited in the Safety Zone and no wild animal may be taken within it unless advance permission is obtained from the owner or rightful occupant.

Posted Property Under Fish & Wildlife Law. Hunting, fishing or trapping on properly posted land is illegal. Properly posted land will have records filed with the town clerk and the Fish & Wildlife Department.

The specific details on posting property are in Title 10, Vermont Statutes Annotated Sections 5201 to 5206, and are available at all town clerks' offices.

In order to hunt, fish or trap on properly posted land, a person must have the written consent of the owner or the person having exclusive right to take fish or wild animals from that land. This also means that a person may not carry or possess a firearm, bow and arrow or trap on land that is properly posted.

A person must leave the land immediately on demand of the owner, whether the land is posted or not.

Posting Signs. Signs prohibiting fishing, hunting or trapping on properly posted land shall be as follows:

- The owner or the person who has exclusive rights to fish, hunt and trap on the land will post the signs. The owner or person posting the land shall record the posting at the town clerk's office for a fee of \$5.00
- Signs must be not less than 11-1/2 inches wide by 8 inches high in size
- Lettering and background on the signs must be of contrasting colors
- The signs must contain the wording that hunting, fishing or trapping or any combination of the three are prohibited or forbidden

- Signs are valid even if additional information is on the sign, as long as a reasonable person would understand that hunting, fishing or trapping are prohibited or forbidden
- Legible signs must be maintained at all times and shall be dated each year

Location of Posting Signs. Posting signs must be erected on or near all the boundaries, at each corner and not over 400 feet apart.

G4.5 FALCONRY

Falconry is legal by special permit. Contact Fish & Wildlife in Waterbury for information (contact information in **G2.0**, telephone 802-241-3727).

G4.6 SALE OF SMALL GAME

No person shall buy or sell a wild bird, cottontail rabbit, snowshoe hare or gray squirrel at any time. Exception: see **G4.7** Game Suppers.

G4.7 GAME SUPPERS

Unless there is a specific law to the contrary, game suppers may be held at any time by a church, volunteer fire department, rod and game club, or other nonprofit organization with a permit issued by a fish and wildlife warden.

Wild animals and fish legally taken in this state, or another state or country, may be transported and sold as part of a game supper authorized by permit. Big game provided by the Fish & Wildlife Department may also be sold at such suppers. Migratory waterfowl and anadromous salmon may not be sold.

Permits for game suppers must state the name of the organization holding the supper, as well as the date and location of the supper. A permit needs to be applied for at least 10 days before the date of the supper. Contact the Law Enforcement Division of the Fish & Wildlife Department at Waterbury for a permit application (see section **G2.1**, telephone 802-241-3727).

G4.8 TRANSPORTATION OF FISH AND GAME

Transportation of fish or game is only permitted in the presence of the person who took that fish or game.

A person shall not transport fish or game:

- Taken by someone else unless the person who took the fish or game accompanies it;
- During closed season for that fish or game; or
- If it exceeds the number or limit of fish or game that may legally be taken in a day

However, a person traveling on land between a temporary abode such as a hunting camp and his or her home may transport in one day the number or limit of fish and game that may legally be taken in two days.

While on the waters of the state, a person may not transport more than one day's limit of fish unless the fish is frozen, processed, and packaged for storage.

HUNTING & TRAPPING INFORMATION

Call 800-718-HUNT to get a list of upcoming hunter education classes.

H1.0 GENERAL HUNTING INFORMATION

H1.1 FLUORESCENT ORANGE

Wearing fluorescent “Hunter Orange” while hunting is your choice in Vermont. Most states and Canadian provinces require it for hunting upland and big game animals.

Records show that in mistaken-for-game hunting accidents, the victim is almost always not wearing hunter orange.

Evidence from other states and Canadian provinces that require the use of hunter orange clothing prove that it reduces accidents and saves lives.

Wearing fluorescent “Hunter Orange” while hunting this season is a choice you have to make. Your decision should be one you can live with.

H1.2 MACHINE GUNS AND AUTOLOADING RIFLES

It is illegal while hunting in Vermont to use, carry, or have in your possession a machine gun of any kind or description or an autoloading rifle with a magazine capacity of over 6 cartridges, except a .22 caliber rifle using rim fire cartridges.

H1.3 HANDGUNS

Wherever a rifle may be used in hunting, a handgun is permitted.

H1.4 MUZZLELOADERS

Muzzleloading rifles, shotguns and pistols may be used for hunting whenever modern firearms may be used. (See the information on muzzleloader deer hunting in H3.10).

H1.5 LIGHTS/LASER SIGHTS

It is illegal to intentionally throw or cast the rays of a spotlight, jack, or other artificial light on any highway, or any field, woodland, or forest, in order to spot, locate, take, or attempt to spot, locate or take any wild animal.

However, a light may be used to take skunks and raccoons in accordance with rules of the Fish & Wildlife Board. A kerosene light may be used to take skunks and raccoons; a flashlight of no more than six cells size D or smaller may be used while locating in and taking from a tree any raccoon treed by a dog.

Laser sights are illegal.

H1.6 HUNTING HOURS

Waterfowl and other Migratory Birds: Set annually.

Turkey: Spring—One-half hour before sunrise to 12 noon.
Fall—One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Raccoon and Skunk: Any hour within hunting season.

Coyote: Any hour, no lights allowed.

All Others: One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. (See **Sunrise/Sunset Tables** in back).

H1.7 MOTOR VEHICLES, ATVS, SNOWMOBILES, ROAD HUNTING

State Lands. Motor vehicles, including ATVs (all terrain vehicles) motorcycles, or snowmobiles may NOT be operated on State Wildlife Management Areas, State Parks or State Forests except that SNOWMOBILES may ONLY be driven on trails designated by the Agency of Natural Resources.

Private Lands. It is illegal to operate an ATV on any privately owned land or body of private water unless the operator has written permission of the owner or is a member of a club which has landowner permission. It is illegal to obstruct private driveways, barways, or gateways with a motor vehicle. It is illegal to park or drive a motor vehicle of any kind on private land without permission.

Hunting from. It is illegal to take any wild animal or bird by shooting with firearm or bow and arrow from any motor vehicle. Motor vehicles include cars, trucks, snowmobiles, ATVs, motorboats, airplanes and any conveyance or trailer towed by these.

Paraplegic Hunters. A paraplegic with a proper permit may hunt from a stationary motor vehicle when it is off the highway right-of-way and when he or she has the landowner's permission to park. Contact Fish & Wildlife in Waterbury.

Transporting Firearms in Motor Vehicles. No loaded rifle or shotgun may be carried in or on a motor driven vehicle within the right-of-way of any public road (no shell or cartridge shall be in the chamber, magazine, or mechanism of a rifle or shotgun).

Road Hunting. A person shall not take or attempt to take any wild animal by shooting a firearm, bow and arrow or crossbow while on or within 10 feet of the traveled portion of a public highway. Violators are subject to a fine of up to \$1,000.

H1.8 DOGS

Deer and Moose. Dogs may not be used in taking deer or moose. Dog owners are responsible for keeping their dogs restricted so they cannot take or harass deer or moose at any time of year. Dogs may be shot by wardens and certain other law officers when the dogs are caught harassing deer or moose and the dog owner may be fined and have licenses revoked.

Training Hunting Dogs. A person must accompany a dog being trained to hunt and pursue the species listed below during the specified times, and a firearm may not be carried:

Bear – June 1 to September 15, sunrise to sunset;

Rabbits, hare and game birds – June 1 to the last Saturday in September, from sunrise to sunset;

Raccoon – June 1 to the last Saturday in September, any time of day or night;

Fox and bobcat – June 1 to March 15, except during regular deer season.

By Fish & Wildlife Board permit, a person without a gun may train and condition a hunting dog from the second Monday in March to June 1 from sunrise to sunset inside an area fenced sufficiently to contain the breed of dogs being trained or conditioned. An agent of the commissioner must inspect this fenced area before a permit may be issued. The owner, trainer or handler must accompany dogs being trained or conditioned inside the fence.

Leashed Tracking Dog to Recover Deer or Bear. A hunter who believes he or she has legally killed or wounded a deer or bear during hunting season may engage a person who has a “Leashed Tracking Dog Certificate” issued by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department to track and recover the animal during the season or within 24 hours after the season ends. Except as otherwise permitted in bear hunting, no person may use a dog to track dead or wounded deer or bear.

Applications for the “Leashed Tracking Dog Certificate” cost \$25.00. First-time leashed tracking dog certificates, valid for five years, cost \$100.00 for residents and \$200.00 for nonresidents. Applicants must pass a test. Renewal certificates are \$125.00 for residents and \$225.00 for nonresidents.

H1.9 MOOSE HUNT

A moose hunting season will likely be held in October consistent with Vermont’s Moose Management Plan. Hunting permits would be issued by lottery. Applications would be available on the Fish & Wildlife website.

H1.10 TREE STANDS AND GROUND BLINDS

Private Land: A person must have the landowner’s permission to build, erect, maintain, use or occupy a permanent or portable tree stand or ground blind for any purpose on any private land in Vermont. Anyone who builds, erects, or maintains a tree stand or ground blind shall permanently mark the stand or blind with the owner’s name and address. Marking must be legible and placed so that it can be read conveniently and easily. This does not apply to a landowner who builds, erects, or maintains a tree stand or ground blind on his or her own land. It is illegal to use someone else’s blind without landowner permission.

State Wildlife Management Areas: Permanent tree stands and ground blinds are prohibited on state wildlife management areas. Temporary tree stands and ground blinds are acceptable from the third Saturday in August through the third Saturday in December.

Temporary blinds on state wildlife management areas must be constructed according to the following requirements:

No damage may be done to any living tree in erecting, maintain-

ing, using or accessing the stand or blind except that:

- Dead limbs, trees or shrubs may be removed as needed to erect and use the stand or blind
- No live limbs, trees or shrubs may be cut for any purpose except those one inch or less in diameter at either ground level or from the main stem or branch of the tree where the stand or blind is located as appropriate (for guidance, a United States quarter is .9 inch in diameter)
- No nails, bolts, screws (including access steps), wire, chain or other material that penetrates through a living tree’s bark into the wood below shall be used in erecting, attaching, maintaining or using any stand or blind
- All tree stands or ground blinds used on Wildlife Management Areas must be clearly, permanently and legibly marked with the owner’s name and address. Mark legibly and place it in a manner that enables it to be read conveniently and easily

Tree stands and ground blinds that do not conform to this regulation are prohibited and may be confiscated and/or destroyed by the Department. Building, erecting, maintaining, using or occupying a non-conforming tree stand or ground blind is prohibited.

H1.11 FACTS ABOUT RABIES

Hunters, trappers and taxidermists are urged to observe certain rabies safety precautions.

What is rabies?

Rabies is a virus that infects the central nervous system of mammals. Several strains of the virus are carried by different wildlife species. Although rabies is primarily transmitted by a bite, there is also risk of transmission if saliva or nerve tissue from a rabid animal gets into someone’s eyes, nose, mouth, or into an open wound.

The time between infection and outward signs of the disease can vary from two weeks to several months. After the incubation period, an infected animal will normally show distress, disorientation, and a lack of coordination. Paralysis usually begins in the hindquarters and throat. The animal finally dies when the virus damages the brain and spinal column to the extent that respiration or circulation fails.

A rabid animal can transmit the disease through its saliva when it is sick enough to exhibit symptoms of the disease, but it is also capable of transmitting the disease before showing signs of the disease. An animal that does not appear sick can transmit rabies.

What should I do if I’m bitten or scratched by a wild animal?

Wash the wound with soap and water for five minutes as soon as possible. Try to capture the animal only if you can do so without getting bitten again. The animal that injured you can be tested.

If it does not have rabies, you do not need to receive antirabies treatment. If you kill the animal, do not damage the head, since it is the brain that must be tested. Call a game warden for help in arranging to have the animal tested (see **G2.7** for contact information).

See your doctor if you receive a bite or scratch or if you got saliva, brain, or nervous system tissue into an open cut or sore, into your eyes, nose or mouth, or if you are concerned that you might have been exposed to rabies. Human rabies can be prevented if a person that is exposed to this virus is treated within a few days of the exposure. The treatment involves a series of shots given in the shoulder and other muscles.

What should I do if I see a wild animal that acts, disoriented, aimless, or has lost the use of rear legs, or acts aggressive or tame?

If you see an animal that is showing any of these symptoms, avoid the animal entirely. If you come across a downed or dead animal, leave it alone.

What precautions should I take while field dressing an animal?

It is advisable to wear rubber or plastic gloves when field dressing wild animals. Carefully wash up to remove any blood or tissue afterward. Hunters should wash hands with soap, and disinfect knives and other equipment with a fresh solution of household bleach in water (1 pint bleach in 1 gallon of water).

What precautions should be taken when processing wild animal carcasses?

Meat cutters and taxidermists should be aware of the rabies potential and take care when handling carcasses from an area where rabies has been found.

Should trappers and furbearer hunters take extra precautions?

Trappers and anyone else who handles furbearers should consult with their doctors about getting rabies pre-exposure shots.

Where can I find out more about rabies?

Call the toll-free rabies hotline in Montpelier:
1-800-4-RABIES (1-800-472-2437)

Biologists with the Wildlife Services Unit of the U.S. Department of Agriculture will help.

Rabies Vector Wildlife

To limit the contact between the public and potentially rabid animals and to reduce the possibility of spreading the disease to healthy wildlife populations through translocation of animals:

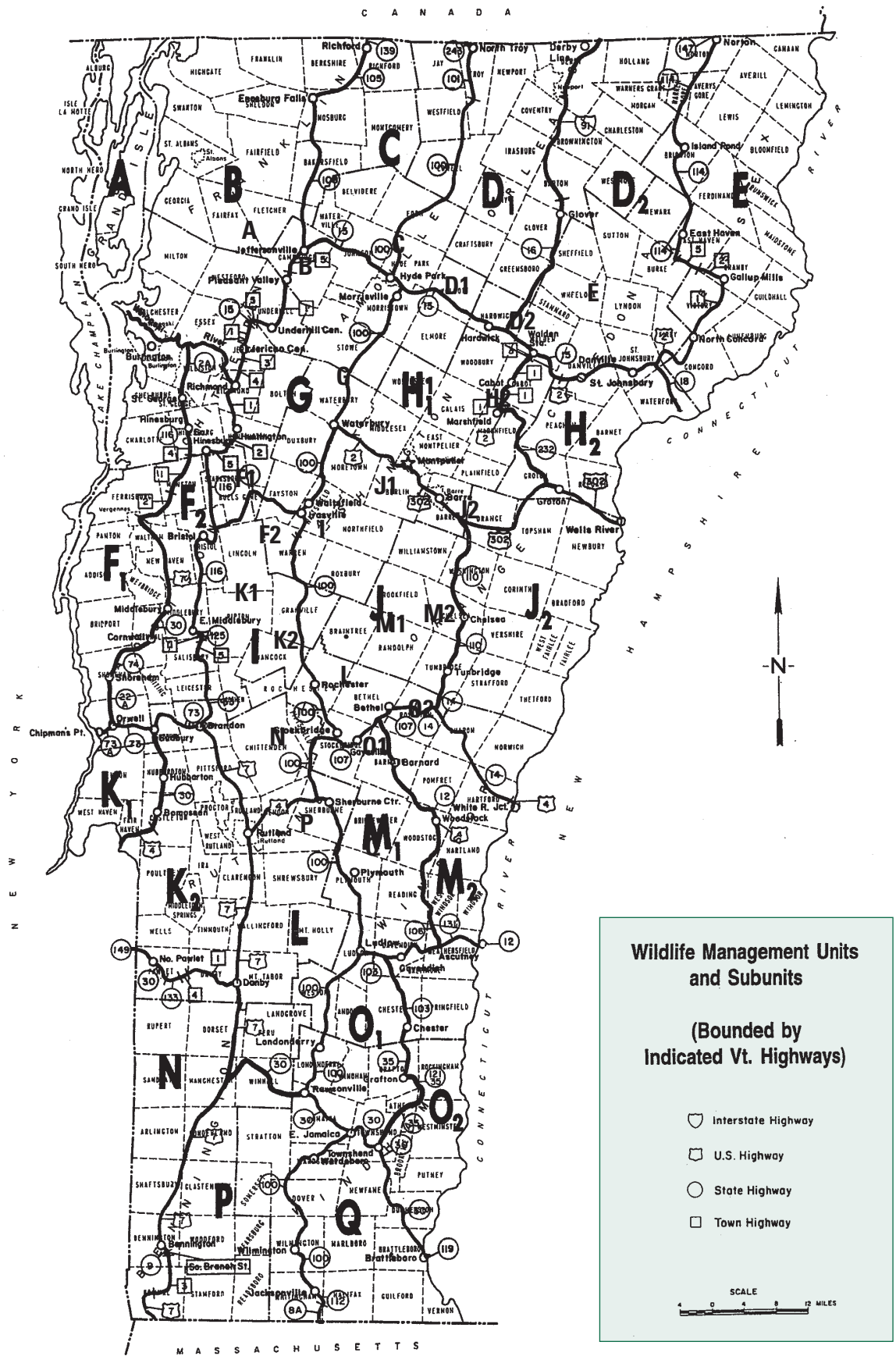
- It is unlawful to import and possess live raccoons, foxes, skunks and woodchucks in Vermont and no permits to do so will be granted.
- Translocation of nuisance/problem raccoons, foxes, skunks and woodchucks is prohibited and such animals must be released at the point of capture or humanely destroyed.
- Rehabilitation of raccoons, foxes, skunks and woodchucks is prohibited until further notice, except by special rehabilitation permit.

H1.12 CAUTION: IT IS UNLAWFUL TO —

- Pick up carcasses of protected wildlife
- Take game except with a gun, bow and arrow, or crossbow by permit
- Set or use a snare
- Set or use any device to discharge a firearm for the purpose of taking any wild animal
- Take waterfowl or wild turkeys with the aid of an electronic calling device
- Use dogs to hunt deer or moose



H1.13 WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT UNIT (WMU) MAP



**Antlerless Deer Management District Boundaries
Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department**

Area A – All of Grand Isle County including the islands.

Area B – Beginning at the junction of the United States/Canadian Border and the Grand Isle/ Franklin Counties Border proceed east along the Canadian Border to its intersection with State Route 139. Then proceed southerly along that road to State Route 105. Continue southerly along Route 105 to State Route 108 and then along Route 108 to its intersection with the Upper Valley Road (Cambridge Town Highway 5) in Jeffersonville. Continue southerly along the Upper Valley Road to the Pleasant Valley Road and then along the Pleasant Valley Road (Cambridge Town Highway 1, Underhill Town Highway 1, Jericho Town Highway 5) to State Route 15. Then south along Route 15 to the Brown's Trace Road (Jericho Town Highways 1,3,4) and along that road to the Jericho Road (Richmond Town Highway 4). Continue along the Jericho Road to Bridge Street in Richmond and along Bridge Street to the Winooski River. Then westerly along the Winooski River to its mouth at Lake Champlain and then in a northwesterly direction to the Grand Isle/Chittenden County border. Then north along that border to the point of beginning.

Area C – Beginning at the junction of the United State/Canadian Border and State Route 139 proceed east along the border to State Route 243. Then southerly along Route 105A to State Route 101 and along 101 to State Route 100. Continue south along Route 100 to State Route 15 then west along Route 15 to State Route 108. Then north along Route 108 to State Route 105 and along Route 105 to Route 139 and along it to the point of beginning.

Area D – Beginning at the United States/Canadian Border and State Route 243 proceed east along the border to State Route 147. Then south along that road to State Route 114. Continue south along Route 114 to Burke Town Highway 5 and then east-erly along that road to Victory Town Highway 2 and along it to Gallup Mills. From Gallup Mills proceed south along Victory Town Highway 1 to Concord Town Highway 1 and along it to U.S. Route 2 at North Concord. Then west along U.S. Route 2 to State Route 15 and along Route 15 to State Route 100. Then north along Route 100 to state Route 101 and along it to State Route 105A and along it to the point of beginning. Deer Management Unit D is subdivided into subunits D1 and D2.

Subunit D1 – is that part of area “D” lying West of a line commencing at the junction of Vermont State Highways 15 and 16 in the Town of Hardwick and proceeding northerly along Vermont State Highway 16 to its junction with Interstate 91 in the Town of Barton and then northerly along Interstate 91 to the border between the United States and Canada in the Town of Derby.

Subunit D2 – is that part of area “D” lying East of a line commencing at the junction of Vermont State Highways 15 and 16 in the Town of Hardwick and proceeding northerly along Vermont State Highway 16 to its junction with Interstate 91 in

the Town of Barton and then northerly along Interstate 91 to the border between the United States and Canada in the Town of Derby.

Area E – Beginning at the United States/Canadian Border and State Route 147 proceed east along the border to the Vermont/New Hampshire Border at Canaan. Then south along the New Hampshire Border to State Route 18. Continue along Route 18 to U.S. Route 2. Then east along U.S. Route 2 to Concord Town Highway 1 at North Concord. Then along that road to Victory Town Highway 1 and along it to Gallup Mills. From Gallup Mills proceed west along Victory Town Highway 2 to Burke Town Highway 5 and along it to State Route 114. Then north along Route 114 to Route 147 and along it to the point of beginning.

Area F – Beginning at the mouth of the Winooski River at Lake Champlain proceed east along the river to Bridge Street in Richmond. Then south along Bridge Street to the Richmond/Huntington Road (Richmond Town Highway 1, Huntington Town Highway 1) and along it to the Hinesburg Hollow Road (Huntington Town Highway 2, Starksboro Town Highway 2, Hinesburg Town Highway 5). Then west along the Hinesburg Hollow Road to State Route 116. Continue south along Route 116 to State Route 125 and then east on that road to the Upper Plains Road (Middlebury Town Highway 11, Salisbury Town Highway 5). Then south along that road to State Route 53 and along it to State Route 73. Proceed westerly on Route 73 to State Route 73A and along it to Chipman's Point. Then on a west line to the New York/Vermont Border and then north along that border to the Grand Isle County Border. Then southeast to the Winooski River to the point of beginning. Deer Management Unit F is subdivided into subunits F1 and F2.

Subunit F1 – is that part of area “F” lying West of a line commencing at the junction of State Highways 22A and 73 in the Town of Orwell, then proceeding northerly along Vermont State Highway 22A to its junction with Vermont State Highway 74 in the Town of Shoreham then northerly along Vermont State Highway 74 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 30 in the Town of Cornwall and then northerly along Vermont State Highway 30 to its junction with U.S. Route 7 in the Town of Middlebury then northerly along U.S. Route 7 to its junction with the Monkton Ridge Road (T.H. #2) in the Town of Ferrisburg. Then northerly along the Monkton Ridge Road. (T.H. #2 in Ferrisburg, T.H. #1 in Monkton, T.H. #4 in Hinesburg) to its junction with Vermont State Highway 116 in the Town of Hinesburg and northerly along Vermont State Highway 116 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 2A in the Town of St. George and then northerly along Vermont State Highway 2A to its junction with the Winooski River in the Town of Williston.

Subunit F2 – is that part of area “F” lying East of a line commencing at the junction of State Highways 22A and 73 in the Town of Orwell, then proceeding northerly along Vermont State Highway 22A to its junction with Vermont State Highway 74 in the Town of Shoreham then northerly along Vermont State Highway 30 in the Town of Cornwall and then northerly along Vermont State Highway 30 to its junction with U.S. Route 7 in the Town of Middlebury then northerly along U.S. Route 7 to its junction with the Monkton Ridge Road (T.H.

#2) in the Town of Ferrisburg. Then northerly along the Monkton Ridge Road (T.H. #2 in Ferrisburg, T.H. #1 in Monkton, T.H. #4 in Hinesburg) to its junction with Vermont State Highway 116 in the Town of Hinesburg and northerly along Vermont State Highway 116 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 2A in the Town of St. George and then northerly along Vermont State Highway 2A to its junction with the Winooski River in the Town of Williston.

Area G – Beginning at the junction of State Route 108 and the upper Valley Road (Cambridge Town Highway 5) in Jeffersonville proceed north on Route 108 to State Route 15. Then east on Route 15 to State Route 100 and then south on that road to State Route 17. Continue westerly along Route 17 to State Route 116 then north along that road to the Hinesburg Hollow Road (Hinesburg Town Highway 5, Starkboro Town Highway 2, Huntington Town Highway 2). Proceed northeasterly along the Hinesburg Hollow Road to the Richmond/Huntington Road (Huntington Town Highway 1, Richmond Town Highway 1) and along that road to Bridge Street in Richmond. Continue along Bridge Street to the Jericho Road (Richmond Town Highway 4) and along it to the Brown's Trace Road (Jericho Town Highway 4,3,1). Then along that road to State Route 15 and along it to the Pleasant Valley Road (Jericho Town Highway 5, Underhill Town Highway 1, Cambridge Town Highway 1). Continue on that road to the Upper Valley Road and along it to the point of beginning.

Area H – Beginning at the intersection of State Route 15 and 100 in Morristown proceed east along Route 15 to U.S. Route 2 and then along U.S. Route 2 to State Route 18. Then south along Route 18 to the Vermont/New Hampshire Border and then along the border to its intersection with U.S. Route 302 at Wells River. Then west on U.S. Route 302 Route 2 in Montpelier and then along U.S. Route 2 to State Route 100. Then north along Route 100 to the point of beginning. Deer Management Unit "H" is subdivided into subunits H1 and H2.

Subunit H1 – is that part of area "H" lying West of a line commencing at the junction of U.S. Route 302 and the "Groton Marshfield" State Highway 232 in the Town of Groton and then northerly along the "Groton Marshfield" State Highway 232 to its junction with U.S. Route 2 in the Town of Marshfield and then west along U.S. Route 2 to its junction with the "Cabot Walden" road (T.H. #1 in Marshfield, T.H. #1 in Cabot, T.H. #3 in Walden) to its junction with Vermont State Highway 15 in the Town of Walden.

Subunit H2 – is the part of area "H" lying East of a line commencing at the junction of U.S. Route 302 and the "Groton Marshfield" State Highway 232 in the Town of Groton and then northerly along the "Groton Marshfield" State Highway 232 to its junction with U.S. Route 2 in the Town of Marshfield and then west along U.S. Route 2 to its junction with the "Cabot Walden" road (T.H. #1 in Marshfield, T.H. #1 in Cabot, T.H. #3 in Walden) to its junction with Vermont State Highway 15 in the Town of Walden.

Area I – Beginning at the intersection of State Routes 116 and 17 proceed east along Route 17 to its junction with State Route 100. Then south along Route 100 to U.S. Route 4 and then west on U.S. Route 4 to U.S. Route 7. Then north along U.S. Route 7 to State Route 73. Then along Route 73 to State Route 53 and along

it to the Upper Plains Road (Salisbury Town Highway 5, Middlebury Town Highway 11). Proceed north along the Upper Plains Road to State Route 125 and West along it to Route 116 then north along that road to the point of beginning.

Area J – Beginning at the intersection of State Route 100 and U.S. Route 2 proceed east on U.S. Route 2 to U.S. Route 302 and along it to the Vermont/New Hampshire Border at Wells River. Then south along the border to U.S. Route 4 and then west on U.S. Route 4 to State Route 14 and west along it to State Route 107, to Route 100 and north along it to the point of beginning. Deer management Unit "J" is subdivided into subunits J1 and J2.

Subunit J1 – is that part of area "J" lying West of a line commencing at the junction of Vermont State Highway 14 and 110 in the Town of Royalton and then northerly along Vermont State Highway 110 to its junction with U.S. Route 302 in the Town of Barre.

Subunit J2 – is that part of area "J" lying East of a line commencing at the junction of Vermont State Highway 14 and 110 in the Town of Royalton and then northerly along Vermont State Highway 110 to its junction with U.S. Route 302 in the Town of Barre.

Area K – Beginning at Chipman's Point proceed east along State Route 73A to State Route 73 and continue along it to U.S. Route 7. Then south along U.S. Route 7 to the Danby/Pawlet Road (Mt. Tabor T.H. #1, Danby T.H. #1, Pawlet T.H. #4). Then west along that road to State Route 133 and along it to State Route 30 then westerly along that road to State Route 149 and along it to the Vermont/New York Border. Then north along the border to the point of beginning. Deer Management Unit "K" is subdivided into subunits K1 and K2.

Subunit K1 – is that part of area "K" lying North and West of a line commencing at the junction of the New York/Vermont Border and U.S. Route 4 in the Town of Fair Haven and easterly along U.S. Route 4 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 30 in the Town of Castleton and then northerly along Vermont State Highway 20 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 73 in the Town of Sudbury.

Subunit K2 – is that part of area "K" lying South and East of a line commencing at the junction of the New York/Vermont Border and U.S. Route 4 in the Town of Fair Haven and easterly along U.S. Route 4 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 30 in the town of Castleton and then northerly along Vermont State Highway 30 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 73 in the Town of Sudbury.

Area L – Beginning at the intersection of U.S. Route 4 and 7 proceed east along U.S. Route 4 to State Route 100. Then south along that road to State Route 30 and then west along it to U.S. Route 7 and north along that road to the point of beginning.

Area M – Beginning at the intersection of State Route 100 and 107 proceed east on Route 107 to State Route 14 and along it to U.S. Route 4. Then along U.S. Route 4 to the Vermont/New Hampshire Border. Then south along the border to State Route 12 and then west on that road to State Route 131. Continue west on that road to State Route 103, and continue westerly to State Route 100 and then north on that road to the point of beginning.

Deer Management Unit “M” is subdivided into subunits M1 and M2.

Subunit M1 – is that part of area “M” lying West of a line commencing at the junction of Vermont State Highway 131 and 106 in the Town of Weathersfield and then northerly along Vermont State Highway 106 to its junction with U.S. Route 4 in the Town of Woodstock and then east along U.S. route 4 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 12 in the Town of Woodstock and the north along Vermont state Highway 12 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 107 in the Town of Bethel.

Subunit M2 – is that part of area “M” lying East of a line commencing at the junctions of Vermont State Highways 131 and 106 in the Town of Weathersfield and then northerly along Vermont State Highway 106 to its junction with U.S. Route 4 in the Town of Woodstock and then east along U.S. Route 4 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 12 in the Town of Woodstock and then north along Vermont State Highway 12 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 107 in the Town of Bethel.

Area N – Beginning at the junction of State Route 149 and the Vermont/New York Border proceed east on that road to State Route 30 then southeast on that road to State Route 133. Continue easterly on that road to the Danby/Pawlet Road (Pawlet T.H. #4, Danby T.H. #1, Mt. Tabor T.H. #1). Then along that road to U.S. Route 7 and then south on U.S. Route 7 to State Route 9. Then east on Route 9 to South Branch Street in Bennington and then south along it to Bennington Town Highway 3 to Pawnal Town Highway 3 and along it to U.S. Route 7. Then along U.S. Route 7 to the Vermont/Massachusetts Border and then west along that border to the New York Border and north along it to the point of beginning.

Area O – Beginning at the intersection of State Routes 100 and 103 proceed east on Route 103 to State Route 131 and continue easterly to Route 12 State and then along that road to the Vermont/New Hampshire Border. Then south along that border to State Route 119. Then west along that route to Main Street in Brattleboro and then northerly along Main Street to State Route 30. Continue north along Route 30 to State Route 100 and then north on it to the point of beginning. Deer management Unit “O” is subdivided into subunits O1 and O2.

Subunit O1 – is that part of area “O” lying West of a line commencing at the junction of Vermont State Highway 30 and 35 in the Town of Townshend and proceeding northerly along Highway 35 to the Town of Cambridgeport then continuing northerly along Highway 35/121 to the Town of Grafton and continuing north on Highway 35 to Vermont State Highway 103 in the Town of Chester and then northerly along Vermont State Highway 103 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 131 in the Town of Cavendish.

Subunit O2 – is that part of area “O” lying East of a line commencing at the junction of Vermont State Highways 30 and 35 in the Town of Townshend and proceeding northerly along Highway 35 to the Town of Cambridgeport then continuing northerly along Highway 35/121 to the Town of Grafton and

continuing north on Highway 35 to Vermont State Highway 103 in the Town of Chester and then northerly along Vermont State Highway 103 to its junction with Vermont State Highway 131 in the Town of Cavendish.

Area P – Beginning at the intersection of U.S. Route 7 and State Route 30 proceed east on Route 30 to State Route 100 and then south on that road to State Route 112. Then along that road to State Route 8A and along Vermont/Massachusetts border. Then west along the border to U.S. Route 7 and then north on it to Pownal Town Highway 3 and along it to Bennington Town Highway. Continue on that road to South Branch Street in Bennington and then on it to State Route 9. Then west on Route 9 to U.S. Route 7 and then north on it to the point of beginning.

Area Q – Beginning at the intersection of State Routes 100 and 30 in East Jamaica proceed southeast on Route 30 to Main Street in Brattleboro and then along Main Street to State Route 119 and along it to the Vermont/New Hampshire Border. Then South on that border to the Massachusetts Border and then west along that border to State Route 8A. Then northerly along that road to State Route 112 and then along it to State Route 100. Proceed north along Route 100 to the point of beginning.

H2.0 BIG GAME

H2.1 DEFINITION

Deer, bear, moose, wild turkey, caribou, elk, and anadromous Atlantic salmon taken in the Connecticut River Basin are considered “**big game**.”

H2.2 TAGGING

As soon as a **big game** animal is taken in an open season, it must immediately be tagged. The tag shall be placed on the carcass in a location that is open to view. The tag shall remain on the carcass during possession and transportation, until such time as the animal is cut up for consumption.

Transporting parts of **big game** is prohibited unless the parts or the package containing them are marked with the name and address of the person who killed the animal(s).

H2.3 REPORTING

A person taking **big game**, as defined, pursuant to the seasons provided by law or regulation of the Fish & Wildlife Board shall within 48 hours report the taking and exhibit the carcass to the nearest game warden, official Fish & Wildlife Department Reporting Station, or to a person designated by the commissioner to receive the reports. No **big game** carcass shall be transported out of state without first being reported.

H2.4 TRANSPORTING

It is illegal to transport **big game** taken by any illegal means, or taken in closed season.

It is illegal to transport a wild deer with antlers less than three inches in length, except if it was taken under the provisions of

Title 10 (deer taken in archery season and antlerless season).

Deer do not need to be visible when transported.

All other regulations regarding the transportation of fish or game (see **G4.8**) apply to the transportation of **big game**.

H2.5 IMPORTING

In order to legally transport into Vermont and possess **big game** that was legally taken in another state or country, a person must keep the tag that is required by the state or the country where the **big game** was taken. Each package of meat must be marked with the name of the person who took the animal, tag number, date, and state or country of origin.

Rules on Importing and Possession of Deer or Elk from Areas with Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) and Captive Hunt Areas or Farms:

It is illegal to import or possess legally taken deer or elk, or parts of deer or elk, from states and Canadian provinces that have had Chronic Wasting Disease, or from captive hunt or farm facilities with the following exceptions:

- Meat that is cut up, packaged and labeled with hunting license information and not mixed with other deer or elk during processing.
- Meat that is boneless.
- Hides or cape with no part of the head attached.
- Clean skull-cap with antlers attached.
- Antlers with no other meat or tissue attached.
- Finished taxidermy heads.
- Upper canine teeth with no tissue attached.

As of September 2004, the following states and Canadian provinces had found CWD in their **wild** deer or elk populations: Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, New Mexico, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Saskatchewan.

These states and Canadian provinces had found CWD in **captive** herds of deer or elk: Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota, Kansas, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Montana, and Alberta.

For more information on CWD, see **H3.0**.

Other fish or game legally taken in another state or country may be possessed and transported into Vermont in the presence of the person who took that fish or game (see **G4.8** for details).

H2.6 FINES AND PENALTIES

A person who violates state law regarding **big game** hunting or the rules of the Fish & Wildlife Board relating to taking, possessing, transporting, buying or selling of **big game** will face penalties that include fines, imprisonment, and license revocation. Violators shall be fined not more than \$500.00, nor less than \$200.00. Violators may also be imprisoned for not more than 60 days, or may face both fine and imprisonment. License revocation is based on the point system (10 V.S.A. Sect. 4502, see also section **G3.12**).

H2.7 ILLEGAL MEANS OF TAKING

The following means of taking **big game** are not allowed: snares, traps, salt licks, jacks or other lights. None of these devices may be used to entrap or ensnare **big game**.

Hunters are prohibited from using a dog of any breed or sex at any time for the purpose of hunting any **big game**; for example, deer or moose. Hunters are also prohibited from harboring or possessing while hunting a dog used for this purpose. Exceptions for hunting black bear and wild turkey with dogs are provided in Fish & Wildlife rules.

H2.8 POSSESSION

Big game may be legally possessed during the open season and for a reasonable time after the season has closed. The only **big game** that can be legally possessed is big game that has been legally taken.

It is illegal to possess **big game** taken by any illegal devices or, any big game taken in closed season.

Any part of the carcass of legally taken **big game** may be possessed at any time in cans or in a cold storage locker or home freezer.

H2.9 PURCHASE AND SALE

The only time it is legal to buy or sell **big game** or the meat of **big game** within the state is during the open season and for 20 days after the season ends. The meat of **big game** animals is not to be bought or sold for the purpose of being transported out of the state.

It is illegal to buy or sell anadromous Atlantic salmon taken in the Connecticut River Basin and/or to buy or sell wild turkey at any time.

Other than the meat mentioned above, a person may buy or sell at any time:

- The head, hide and hoofs of legally taken deer or moose; or
- The head, hide, paws and internal organs of a legally taken black bear

H3.0 DEER HUNTING

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)

CWD is a disease of the brain and nervous system in deer and elk. It produces lesions that cause death in deer and elk. As of September 2004, CWD had only been found in Illinois, Wisconsin and several western states, as well as Alberta and Saskatchewan. Vermont wildlife biologists are monitoring the CWD situation and will be providing information as needed. Check section **H2.5** for information on importing deer or elk, or parts thereof, into Vermont. For the latest information on CWD, check the following websites:
www.vtfishandwildlife.com / www.iafwa.org / www.cwd-info.org

H3.1 ANNUAL LIMIT

In Act No. 136, AN ACT RELATING TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE DEER HERD, of the 2004 Session, the Legislature suspended the

laws relating to muzzleloader and bow and arrow deer seasons and the annual deer limit. It also delegated to the Fish and Wildlife Board the authority to provide for seasons and the annual limit. The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department will provide laws on deer hunting when the Board completes the rulemaking process prior to the 2005 hunting seasons.

H3.2 HUNTING HOURS

Hunting hours are one half hour before sunrise to one half hour after sunset. (See Sunrise/Sunset Tables.)

H3.3 TRANSPORTING DEER

A tagged deer may be transported only during the open season and for 20 days thereafter.

Deer may be legally transported only under two conditions:

- When accompanied by the person who shot the deer (including moving the deer from kill-site to camp or motor vehicle) or
- When transported by common carrier (for example, a shipping company) and tagged with the name of the consignor and consignee, name of station shipped from, and its destination

The appropriate deer tag must be securely attached to the deer in both circumstances.

When transporting parts of a deer, the parts or package must be marked with name and address of person who killed the deer.

Deer do not need to be visible when transported.

Also, see the transporting and importing sections under Big Game (**H2.4** and **H2.5**) and the general transporting section (**G4.8**).

H3.4 DEER HIDES

Anyone wishing to engage in the business of buying furs or skins of furbearers or deer hides must have a valid Fur Buyer's License. Contact Fish & Wildlife in Waterbury (see **G2.0**, phone 802-241-3703).

H3.5 USING SALT TO HUNT DEER

Using salt to attract deer for hunting is illegal.

Vermont Statute Title 10, Section 4747—"A person shall not take or possess big game by the aid of a snare, trap, salt lick, jack or other light or use these devices to entrap or ensnare big game."

Most deer attractants, especially "licks," have salt listed as an ingredient on the package. Refuse to buy it if it contains salt, and refuse to buy a product that doesn't have an ingredient label.

H3.6 YOUTH DEER HUNTING WEEKEND—NOV. 5-6, 2005

Vermont's youth deer hunting weekend is on the Saturday and Sunday prior to the opening of the regular November deer season. Young resident hunters who qualify can pick up youth deer hunting tags from hunting and fishing license agents.

Anyone under 16 years of age who has at least one parent or guardian who is a legal resident of Vermont and who has successfully completed a hunter education course may obtain a free youth deer hunting tag by presenting a hunter education course certificate and a filled out application to a license agent. A parent or guardian must also sign the application.

In addition to satisfactorily completing the hunter education course and obtaining the youth deer hunt tag, a participating young person must hold a valid Vermont hunting license and be accompanied by an unarmed adult over 18 years of age who holds a Vermont hunting license. Landowner permission is required in order to hunt on private land with a youth deer tag. The adult may not accompany more than two young hunters at a time.

Landowner permission is required in order to hunt on private land with a youth deer tag. Road hunting is illegal.

A Vermont youth deer hunt tag is valid for one deer of either sex on youth deer hunting weekend.

H3.7 SWIMMING DEER

It is illegal to take a deer that is swimming in any lake, pond, river or other body of water.

H3.8 BOW AND ARROW DEER HUNTING

License. Any person wishing to hunt deer with a bow and arrow during archery deer season must have a bow and arrow license. Exceptions: resident and nonresident landowners on their own land. (See **G3.9(b)**)

In Act No. 136, AN ACT RELATING TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE DEER HERD, of the 2004 Session, the Legislature suspended the laws relating to muzzleloader and bow and arrow deer seasons and the annual deer limit. It also delegated to the Fish and Wildlife Board the authority to provide for seasons and the annual limit. The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department will provide laws on deer hunting when the Board completes the rulemaking process prior to the 2005 hunting seasons.

Deer must be taken by bow (long bow, recurve bow or compound bow) and arrows. The arrowhead must be at least 7/8 of an inch in width with two or more cutting edges. For this season, a person must have a bow and arrow license in addition to the regular hunting license (except for those hunters with an archery-only license).

It is illegal to carry a firearm while bow hunting deer in the special bow and arrow season.

Crossbows are Illegal for Hunting. Exception: A crossbow may be used by special permit to take any game that may be taken by bow and arrow. This special permit, issued to a person so physically impaired that he or she cannot operate a standard bow, allows that person to hunt with a crossbow. A permit applicant must produce a licensed physician's certificate certifying that the disability requires the use of a crossbow. Obtain an application from Fish & Wildlife in Waterbury (see **G2.0**) before visiting your doctor. Applicant must also appear before a state game warden. Be sure to make an appointment ahead of time.

Unless it is uncocked, it is illegal to possess or transport a cross-bow in or on a motor vehicle, motor boat, airplane, snowmobile, or other motor-propelled craft or any vehicle drawn by a motor-propelled vehicle.

Recovery of Bow & Arrow Deer After Hours. Department policy allows a hunter who has wounded a deer with an arrow to look for the deer after the close of legal shooting time under the following conditions:

- The hunter must request permission from the State Game Warden. Call the nearest State Police office, giving exact location and circumstances. Phone numbers are listed in **G2.7**.
- The hunter may not take a firearm, bow and arrow, or cross-bow on the search, only a knife to dress the deer
- The hunter must notify the landowner of his/her intentions before starting out to recover the deer

H3.9 NOVEMBER DEER HUNTING

Season: Nov. 12-27, 2005

In Act No. 136, AN ACT RELATING TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE DEER HERD, of the 2004 Session, the Legislature amended the November deer season law regarding antler restrictions. It also delegated to the Fish and Wildlife Board the authority to provide for November deer season antler restrictions.

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department will provide laws on deer hunting when the Board completes the rulemaking process prior to the 2005 hunting seasons.

A firearm or bow and arrow may be used.

H3.10 MUZZLELOADER DEER HUNTING

Season: In Act No. 136, AN ACT RELATING TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE DEER HERD, of the 2004 Session, the Legislature suspended the laws relating to muzzleloader and bow and arrow deer seasons and the annual deer limit. It also delegated to the Fish and Wildlife Board the authority to provide for seasons and the annual limit. The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department will provide laws on deer hunting when the Board completes the rulemaking process prior to the 2005 hunting seasons.

Definition of Muzzleloading Firearm: A muzzleloading rifle is a single-shot, single-barrel rifle or smoothbore firearm with a minimum barrel length of twenty inches that is designed to be fired from the shoulder. A muzzleloading pistol is a single-shot pistol with a minimum barrel length of 10 inches. Both rifle and pistol must be incapable of being loaded from the breach without the use of tools. Both weapons must have a minimum bore diameter of .43 inches and an ignition system of traditional or modern flintlock, caplock, matchlock, inline or wheellock style.

Definition of Ammunition for Muzzleloaders: Black powder or other suitable non-smokeless propellant, and a single ball or bullet.

Definition of Loaded Muzzleloader: The weapon shall be considered loaded when it has been charged with powder and projectile and is primed or capped.

Special Provisions. A person who purchases a muzzleloader

deer license shall not carry, while hunting during the muzzleloader deer season, any firearms other than one single-barreled muzzleloading firearm.

H4.0 BLACK BEAR HUNTING

H4.1 GENERAL BEAR HUNTING INFORMATION

Season: The season for black bear is Sept. 1- Nov. 16, 2005.

A hunter may take only one black bear in a calendar year.

Bears may be taken only by gun, bow and arrow or crossbow by special permit.

Bears may not be taken alive.

Bears may not be trapped.

Hunters may not use bait or a baited area to take a bear. A "baited area" is defined as an area where meat, carrion, honey, or any other substance capable of luring or attracting bear has been placed or deposited.

It is illegal to shoot a bear that is visiting a bird feeder.

H4.2 TRANSPORTING

A tagged bear may be transported only during the open season and for 20 days thereafter. (See also **H2.4**, on transporting big game).

H4.3 USE OF DOGS TO HUNT BEAR

Permit Required. Hunters may use dogs to take bear only when the person in control of the dog or dogs has a bear-dog permit. This permit allows no more than six dogs in the pack, and packs must not be relayed.

Bear Dog Permits. A permit issued by the Commissioner of Fish & Wildlife is required to pursue black bear with the aid of dogs, either for training or taking purposes.

Nonresident Bear Dog Permits. The number of permits issued to nonresidents in any given year is not to exceed ten percent of the number of permits issued to residents in the preceding year. A lottery is used to randomly select nonresident permits. A non-resident may train dogs to hunt bear only while training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the laws and regulations of this state. Contact Fish & Wildlife in Rutland at 802-786-0040.

No Hired Dogs. It is illegal to advertise, hire, barter, exchange, buy, expose or otherwise sell the use of a dog or dogs for the purpose of taking any black bear.

H4.4 SALE OF BLACK BEAR PARTS

International trade in hides, claws, skulls, or teeth of black bear is regulated by federal law and international treaty. If you plan to sell your own bear hide or parts outside of the United States, you must obtain an export permit (for a fee) from the Federal Wildlife Permit Office, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203, 1-800-358-2104.

These products must be shipped through one of eleven designated ports (Boston is the nearest), or through another port under special permit (for a fee) from the same office.

You do not need export permits and declarations to sell to domestic or foreign buyers within Vermont or the rest of the United States, or to sell through brokers who possess the necessary permits.

H5.0 GAME BIRD HUNTING

H5.1 DEFINITIONS

The following are classified as game birds: Quail, ruffed grouse, chukar partridge, woodcock, pheasant, common snipe, coot, wild ducks, wild geese, and wild turkey (which is classified as big game). Other wild birds including Hungarian partridge have no open season.

H5.2 SEASONS & BAG LIMITS

	SEASON	BAG LIMIT
Ruffed Grouse (Partridge)	Last Sat. in Sept. through Dec. 31	4 daily 8 possession
Pheasant *	Last Sat. in Sept. through Dec. 31	2 daily 4 possession
Bobwhite Quail *	No Closed Season.	No limit
Chukar Partridge *	No Closed Season.	No limit
Crow	March 14 - April 30, Aug. 16 - Oct. 29	No limit

* Practically nonexistent except by private stocking.

H5.3 MIGRATORY BIRD REGULATIONS

The Fish & Wildlife Department issues waterfowl and other migratory game bird regulations through license agents shortly before the opening of the seasons.

H5.4 STATE AND FEDERAL WATERFOWL STAMPS

Both Vermont and federal waterfowl stamps are required to hunt migratory waterfowl for hunters 16 and older. Federal stamps are sold at post offices. Vermont State Waterfowl Stamps are available from town clerks and other license agents for \$5.00. The hunter must sign across the face of each stamp before hunting.

H5.5 YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING WEEKEND

A youth waterfowl hunting weekend will likely be held in late September for hunters under 16. Check the migratory bird hunting rules, available in September, for details.

H5.6 DUCK BLINDS

Waterfowl blinds may not be placed on or in the waters of the state earlier than the first Saturday of September of any year. Anyone who places a blind must have their name and address permanently and legibly affixed on the blind by waterproof paint or rustproof tag.

Waterfowl blinds located on or in any waters of the state except Lake Champlain must be removed, together with contents and any surrounding debris, on or before May 15 of the following year. A waterfowl blind located on or in Lake Champlain must be removed on or before February 15 of the following year. Also see **H1.10** for WMAs.

H5.7 NONTOXIC SHOT

It is illegal to take waterfowl or coots in Vermont while possessing loose shot or shot shells loaded with shot other than nontoxic shot. Shot should be of a size no larger than size T.

It is illegal to take a group or combination of waterfowl/coots and other species in Vermont while possessing loose shot or shot shells loaded with any shot other than nontoxic shot.

H5.8 WOODCOCK AND COMMON SNIPE

Season: Set annually.

Woodcock and common snipe are migratory game birds (see **H5.3**). Migratory game birds, including waterfowl, may be taken only by shotgun with one-piece plug or manufactured to restrict it to three-shot capacity. State and Federal duck stamps are not required for woodcock or snipe hunting.

H5.9 HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM FOR MIGRATORY BIRDS (H.I.P.)

Compliance: If you are hunting migratory game birds, you need to comply with the H.I.P. Migratory game birds include ducks, geese, brant, coots, and woodcock. You must complete the H.I.P. questionnaire on the front of the hunting license. There is no charge, but federal law requires that migratory game bird hunters complete this short survey. Vermont and federal migratory waterfowl stamps are also needed to hunt ducks or geese.

How does the H.I.P. work? The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) will ask a sample of hunters to record daily hunt information on survey cards and return completed cards at the end of hunting season. The survey will enable the USFWS to more accurately determine the status of migratory game birds. Inadequate harvest information has been used to legally challenge hunting seasons in some states.

We thank you for your help! Cooperation and support from hunters is the key to sound wildlife management. The Harvest Information Program for Migratory Game Birds will help ensure the future of migratory bird hunting.

H6.0 TURKEY HUNTING

H6.1 LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

A current hunting or combination license and current turkey license are required to hunt turkey.

H6.2 LEGAL METHODS OF TAKING

Only a shotgun or bow and arrow may be used. Only number 2 through number 8 shot shall be used or possessed, and an arrowhead must be at least 7/8 of an inch in width and have two or more cutting edges.

Rifles and handguns shall not be used or carried by any person while hunting turkeys.

No person shall use electronic calling devices, bait, live decoys, or participate in cooperative drives.

No person shall use dogs in the spring season.

H6.3 TAGGING

A hunter who takes a turkey shall attach the proper tag to the carcass. The tag must remain on the carcass until the carcass is prepared for consumption.

H6.4 YOUTH TURKEY HUNTING WEEKEND

Vermont's Youth Turkey Hunting Weekend (April 23-24, 2005) is on the Saturday and Sunday prior to opening day of the spring turkey hunting season.

Anyone under 16 years of age who has at least one parent or guardian who is a legal resident of Vermont, and who has successfully completed a hunter education course, may take one bearded turkey during youth turkey hunting weekend. A youth may also hunt during the spring season and take two bearded turkeys during that season. The young person must hold a valid hunting license and turkey hunting license and be accompanied by an unarmed adult who holds a valid hunting license and is over 18 years of age. The adult may accompany up to two youths at one time.

No person shall hunt on private land during Youth Turkey Hunting Weekend without first obtaining permission of the landowner.

H6.5 TURKEY SEASONS

Spring Season: May 1-31, 2005

Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon.

Limit: Two bearded turkeys for the spring season.

All Wildlife Management Units (WMU) are open to hunting during the spring season.

Fall Season: (See dates below)

Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to one half hour after sunset. (See **Sunrise/Sunset Tables.**)

Limit: One turkey of either sex for the fall season.

Dates and Wildlife Management Units (WMU) Open to Hunting:

- Bow and arrow only: October 1-21 in WMUs F1, F2, G, H1, H2, I, J1, J2, K1, K2, L, M1, M2, N, O1, O2, P, and Q
- Bow and arrow only: October 22-28 in WMU H1
- Seven day shotgun season: October 22-28 in WMUs G, H2, I, J1, J2, L, M1, M2, O1, O2, P, and Q
- Sixteen day shotgun season: October 22-November 8 in WMUs F1, F2, K1, K2, and N

H7.0 OTHER GAME HUNTING

H7.1 SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

	SEASON	BAG LIMIT
Gray Squirrel	September 1- December 31	4 daily 8 possession
Rabbit, Hare	Last Sat. in Sept.- Second Sun. in March	3 daily 6 possession
Elk or Caribou	No open season	

H7.2 SALE OF SMALL GAME

It is illegal to buy or sell a wild bird, rabbit, hare or gray squirrel at any time. Exception: see Game Suppers (**G4.7**).

H8.0 TRAPPING INFORMATION

H8.1 FURBEARING ANIMALS

The following are classified as furbearing animals: beaver, otter, marten, mink, raccoon, fisher, fox, skunk, muskrat, bobcat, and coyote.

H8.2 SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

	SEASON	BAG LIMIT
Beaver	8:00 AM Dec. 1- 4:00 PM 4th Sat. in Feb.	No limit
Otter	4th Sat. in Oct-Dec. 31 and during beaver season.	No limit
Marten	No open season	
Mink	4th Sat. in Oct.- Dec. 31	No limit
Raccoon		
By shooting, with or without dogs	2nd Sat. in Oct-Dec. 31	No limit
By trapping	4th Sat. in Oct.-Dec. 31	No limit
Fisher		
By trapping	Dec. 1-31	No limit
Fox		
By trapping	4th Sat. in Oct.-Dec. 31	No limit
By shooting, with or without dogs	4th Sat. in Oct- 2nd Sun in Feb.	No limit
Skunk	4th Sat. in Oct.-Dec. 31	No limit
Muskrat		
By trapping	4th Sat. in Oct.-Apr. 19	No limit
By shooting	Mar. 20-Apr. 19	No limit
Bobcat		
By trapping	Dec. 1-16	No limit
By shooting	Jan. 10-Feb. 7	No limit
Coyote		
By trapping	4th Sat. in Oct.-Dec. 31	No limit
By shooting	No closed season	No limit

H8.3 TRAPPING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Trapping licenses are only available from Fish & Wildlife in Waterbury (see **G2.0**). An applicant for a trapping license must present either:

- A previous or current trapping license from any state or Canadian province, or
- A certificate showing satisfactory completion of a trapper education course, or
- Other satisfactory proof that the applicant has previously held a valid trapping license

H8.4 TAGGING AND REPORTING

Bobcat, Fisher and Otter pelts and carcasses shall be presented to a Vermont Game Warden within 10 days of the close of the season. The Warden will tag the pelts and keep the carcasses. No bobcat or fisher pelts or carcasses may be transported out of Vermont prior to being tagged by a Vermont Game Warden. Wardens are not required to tag furs when they have probable cause to believe they were taken illegally or possessed unlawfully.

H8.5 CHECKING AND MARKING TRAPS

Traps must be checked at least once every 24 hours and any animals caught must be removed. Exception: Traps set under the water or ice during beaver season must be checked at least once in every 72 hours and any animals caught must be removed.

Each trap set on land other than the trapper's own must be marked with the trapper's name and address. The name and address must be either stamped or engraved on the trap or on a tag of rustproof material that is securely attached to the trap. Trappers must notify the landowner before setting traps, and the property owner may revoke trapping permission at any time.

H8.6 FUR BUYER'S LICENSE

Anyone dealing in pelts must have a valid Fur Buyer's License. The Fur Buyer's License is available from Fish & Wildlife in Waterbury (see **G2.0**, phone 802-241-3703).

H8.7 BEAVER

The only legal method of taking beaver is by means of a trap during the open season. Traps used to take beaver must be marked with a tag visible above the ice in addition to the identification on the trap.

No person shall set a trap within 10 feet of the nearest point, above the water, of a beaver house or dam. No person may interfere with dams or dens of beaver except in protection of property.

H8.8 CAUTION: It is Unlawful to—

- Take a raccoon by shooting except with a .22 caliber rimfire or number 2 shot or smaller
- Set any trap with toothed jaws
- Set a body-gripping trap with a jaw-spread over eight inches, unless the trap is set five feet or more above the ground or in the water. From Dec. 17-31, a person shall not set a body-gripping trap with a jaw-spread over 6 inches unless the trap is set 5 feet or more above the ground or in the water
- Set a trap between Dec. 31 and the following 4th Sat. in Oct. unless the trap is in the water, under the ice or on a float in the water
- Take furbearing animals with poisonous mixtures of any kind
- Take raccoons, skunks or foxes from holes or dens by cutting, digging, smoking, or by use of chemicals
- Take black bear or other game animals by trapping
- Disturb a muskrat house or place a trap therein, thereon, or at the entrance thereof, or in the entrance of or inside a muskrat burrow
- Disturb a trap lawfully set by another person
- Take furbearing animals by means of snares



FISHING INFORMATION

F1.0 GENERAL FISHING INFORMATION

F1.1 DEFINITIONS

For precise legal definitions consult Vermont Statutes Annotated Title 10, Part 4 and Appendix.

Anadromous Atlantic Salmon: Any fish of the species *Salmo salar* found in the Connecticut River, downstream of Lake Francis in Pittsburg, NH, or any of its tributaries, is considered an anadromous Atlantic salmon, regardless of its size or whether it has ever traveled to and/or from the waters or estuaries of the Atlantic Ocean. Under Vermont law, anadromous Atlantic salmon as defined above are classified as Big Game.

Angling: Fishing by means of hook and line in hand or attached to a rod, or by casting or trolling artificial flies, lures or baited hooks, provided that the person angling does not take fish through the ice, from the ice or from any object supported by the ice.

Baited Hook: A single shank hook with 1, 2, or 3 points that may be baited with natural or artificial bait or both.

Catch-and-Release: Angling as explained elsewhere, except that fish must be released immediately where caught.

Closed Season: See SEASONS.

Connecticut River: All waters of the river including bays, setbacks, and tributaries only to the first highway bridge crossing those tributaries on the Vermont and New Hampshire sides.

Daily Limit: See LIMITS.

Downrigger: A device used to deliver fishing lines to a desired depth, and when so used, not considered a fishing line.

Fish Length: For the purpose of determining compliance with fish length restrictions, the length of a fish is considered the longest straight-line and flat distance from the tip of the fish's snout to the tip of the longer lobe of its tail when the two lobes are forced together.

Fishing House: A fishing house means a fishing shanty, bob-house, smelt shanty, tent, or other structure designed to be placed on the ice of the waters of Vermont for use for fishing or to be occupied for other purposes.

Fishing Tournament: A contest, open to the general public, in which anglers or ice fishermen pay a fee to enter and in which the entrants compete for a prize based on the quality, size or number of fish they catch.

Fly: A single pointed hook, dressed with feathers, hair, thread, tinsel, or any similar material wound on or about the hook to which no hooks, spinners, spoons or similar devices have been added.

Foul Hooking: Hooking a fish in any other part of the body than the mouth with a hook or hooks, or manipulating hooks in such a manner as to pierce and hook the fish on a body part other than in the mouth.

Free Fishing Day: Saturday, June 11, is Free Fishing Day in Vermont this year. Anyone, resident or nonresident, may fish without a license. All legal fishing methods and limits still apply. Free Fishing Day is intended to introduce first-time fishermen to a healthful and fun Vermont pastime and will occur each year on the Saturday during National Fishing Week.

Ice Fishing: Fishing through the ice, from the ice or from an object supported by the ice, by means of hook and line in hand or attached to a rod or other device.

Immediate Control: Such constant control as would enable a fisherman to respond promptly and without delay to a fish taking his/her bait, lure or fly.

Lake Champlain: Lake Champlain shall be considered to include the setbacks at the same water level and the major tributaries to the lake upstream to the following boundaries: Rock River to first Canadian line crossing; Mud Creek to the dam; Missisquoi River to Swanton Dam; Mill River in Georgia to falls; Lamoille River to first dam; Mallets Creek to Routes #2 and #7; Winooski River to the falls (ledges) west of Route #7, Winooski; LaPlatte River to the falls in Shelburne (downstream of State Aid Rd. #2); Lewis Creek to falls in No. Ferrisburg (just upstream of State Aid Rd. #1); Little Otter to falls in Ferrisburg Center; Dead Creek to Pantown Road bridge; Otter Creek to falls at Vergennes; East Creek to the falls; Poultney River to Carver Falls. The Lake Champlain boundary with New York is the deepwater navigational channel.

Licenses: See F2.1. A hunting or combination license is required to take fish by shooting or spearing.

Legal Fishing Day: The 24-hour period beginning at 12:00 midnight and continuing until the next 12:00 midnight.

Legal Fishing Hours: During the open season fish may be taken at any hour of the legal fishing day, except where a shorter legal fishing day is specified in the General Fishing Regulations and Exceptions, or where posted otherwise.

Limits:

Daily limit: The number of fish it is legal to keep during the legal fishing day.

Possession limit: The number of fish caught on more than one legal fishing day that an angler or ice fisherman may have in his/her possession; equal to double the daily limit.

Lure: A man-made device designed to catch only one fish at a time, to include a spoon, plug, spinner, bait harness, tandem-hook streamer, or lead head jig.

Minnow Net: A dip net, cast net, umbrella net, or seine used to take fish as bait.

Minnow Trap: A trap used for taking minnows for bait that does not exceed 18" long, with an aperture for the entrance of fish that does not exceed 1 inch in diameter.

Open Season: See SEASONS.

Planer Board: A device used to deliver fishing lines to a desired location, and when so used, not considered a fishing line.

Seasons:

Closed Season: That period of time during which fishing is prohibited.

Open Season: That period of time during which fishing is permitted.

Taking: Pursuing, shooting, hunting, killing, capturing, trapping, snaring and netting fish, and all lesser acts, such as disturbing, harrying, worrying or wounding or placing, setting, drawing or using any net or other device commonly used to take fish, whether they result in taking or not. This includes every attempt to take and every act of assistance to another person in taking or attempting to take fish.

the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department Fish Vermont Official Map & Guide to locate an appropriate body of water for the fish you wish to take. Then, use these indexes and tables to determine the season, daily limit and legal means of taking for the spot you intend to fish. The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Fish Vermont Official Map & Guide is available at locations throughout the state, or from the Fish & Wildlife office in Waterbury (contact information **G2.0**).

EXAMPLE: If you wish to fish for smallmouth bass, see the fish chart at the bottom of the Fish Vermont map. You may select bodies of water in any of the five regions of Vermont which contain smallmouth bass. If you select Lake Bomoseen, find it in the Index of Lakes & Ponds (**F4.0**), and follow the instructions above.

F1.2 USING THE FISHING INFORMATION SECTION

Familiarize yourself with the General Requirements and Prohibitions, and Explanation of Terms. They apply to ALL fishing in Vermont.

If the water body you want to fish is a river, stream, brook or creek, go to the Index of Rivers & Streams (**F3.0**). If it is a lake, pond, reservoir, or impoundment, go to the Index of Lakes & Ponds (**F4.0**).

- If the water body IS LISTED in the INDEX, the number to its right directs you to Table 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5. Letters to the right of the Table number direct you to EXCEPTIONS.

EXAMPLE: If you are planning to fish on Lake Dunmore, you look it up in the Index of Lakes & Ponds (**F4.0**). You will find two listings for Dunmore, Lake. The first is for north of a line from Sucker Brook to the island, the second is for south of that line. You wish to fish south of the line: Table 2 (**F6.0**) and Exceptions B and G (**F10.0**) will apply. BE SURE TO CONSULT THE APPROPRIATE TABLE AND ALL THE EXCEPTIONS FOR THE WATER BODY.

- If the water body is NOT LISTED in the INDEX, then the general regulations contained in Tables 1-4 apply.

EXAMPLE: Trout River in Montgomery is not listed in the Index of Rivers & Streams. Table 1 contains the general regulations for rivers, streams, brooks and creeks not listed in the Index of Rivers & Streams.

General Regulations by Category	Table	Section
Rivers, streams, brooks, creeks and their unnamed impoundments & beaver ponds	1	F5.0
Lakes, ponds, reservoirs, impoundments with names	2	F6.0
Lake Champlain, as defined in section F1.0	3	F7.0
Connecticut River, as defined in section F1.0	4	F8.0
Certain lakes & ponds	5	F9.0

If you do not know which body of water you wish to fish, or if you are looking for an area with a particular species of fish, consult

F2.0 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS

(For a definition of terms used in this section, see **F1.1 Definitions**)

F2.1 FISHING LICENSES

Anyone fishing, in possession of, or transporting fish taken in Vermont waters or the Vermont/New Hampshire waters of the Connecticut River must be properly licensed and must carry the license on his/her person. The license must be shown on demand of a State Game Warden or other enforcement officer, or at the request of the owner of the land on which he/she is fishing.

See Table 4 (**F8.0**) for specific Connecticut River fishing license requirements.

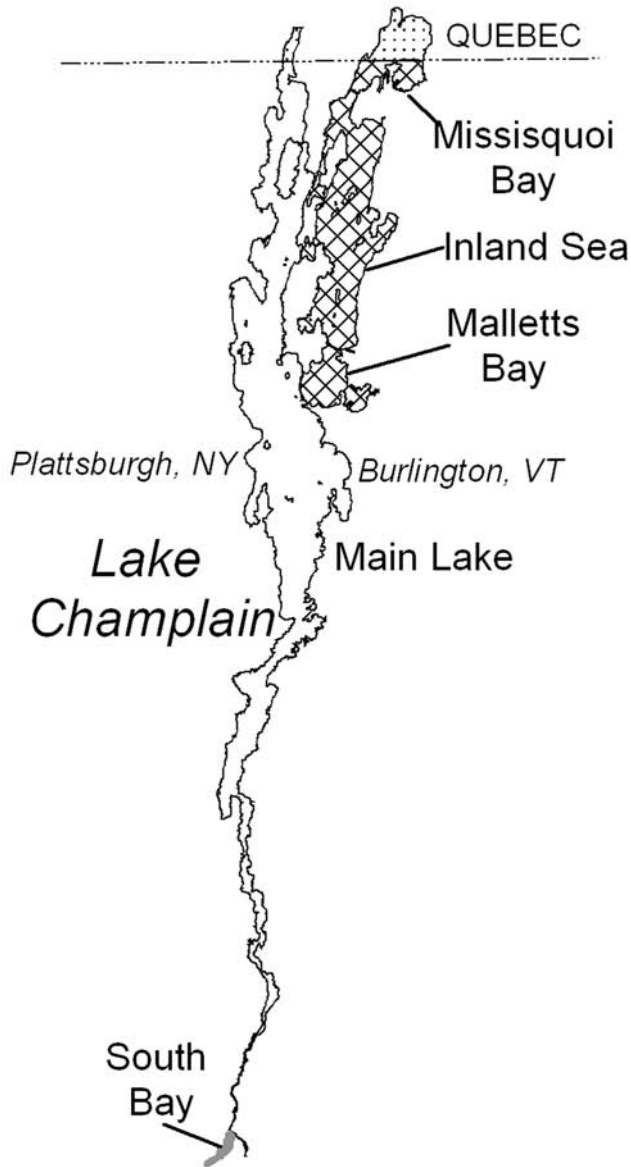
LAKE CHAMPLAIN RECIPROCAL FISHING

A person holding a **New York fishing license** may take fish from the Vermont portion of Lake Champlain only as far east as a line starting on the north shore of the Poultney River where it empties into East Bay, proceeding generally northerly along the shore to the old Rutland Railroad fill on Colchester Point, then following the western side of the old Rutland Railroad fill to Allen Point on Grand Isle, continuing northerly following the western shore of Grand Isle to Tromp Point, then across The Gut to Bow and Arrow Point, then continuing generally northerly along the western shore of North Hero to Pelots Point, then across the Alburg passage to the Point of the Tongue, and then along the western shore of the Alburg peninsula to the United States Border with Canada. When this line crosses a tributary to Lake Champlain, the line shall proceed from the downstream most point of land on one side of the tributary to the downstream most point of land on the other side of the tributary.

Holders of **Vermont fishing licenses** may fish Lake Champlain west of the Vermont/New York border to the New York shore. They may not fish in South Bay or New York tributaries to Lake Champlain.

Caution: Some fishing season dates, length limits, daily creel limits and other regulations are different in New York and Vermont. When fishing in Vermont, anglers must observe Vermont regulations. When fishing in New York, anglers must follow the regulations that apply in New York. Be sure to obtain copies of each state's fishing regulations.

Where Can I Fish?



Fishing License Required:

-  New York or Vermont
-  Vermont Only
-  New York Only
-  Quebec Only

NOTE: This Map is for guidance only and does not constitute a fishing regulation.

F2.2 OPEN AND CLOSED SEASONS

It is illegal to take fish of a species unless the season for that species is open on those waters.

It is illegal to fish in waters when no season is open in those waters, or if those waters are posted as closed by regulations of the Fish & Wildlife Commissioner or Board.

F2.3 TRANSPORTING FISH

A person shall not transport fish taken by another except in the presence of the person who took that fish.

A person shall not transport fish during closed season for that fish.

Generally, a person shall not transport more than the daily limit for a fish. A person traveling on land between a temporary abode such as a camp and that person's residence may transport the possession limit for that fish. A person on the waters of Vermont may transport more than the daily limit of fish only if it is frozen, processed and packaged for storage.

F2.4 IMMEDIATE CONTROL

A person fishing by angling or ice fishing must have immediate control over his/her lines.

F2.5 FISH LENGTH RESTRICTIONS AND FILLETING FISH

If there is a fish length restriction on a species of fish, it may not be filleted or altered while on any body of water to restrict the determination of fish length. Fish with a length restriction may be filleted or consumed on the water so long as the head, vertebrae and tail are retained and remain intact to enable determination of fish length.

F2.6 ANGLING AND FOUL HOOKING

A person fishing by angling shall not take any fish unless it is hooked in the mouth. Any fish not hooked in the mouth shall be immediately released without unnecessary injury.

F2.7 BAITFISH USE AND RESTRICTIONS

The following fish species are the only approved species of fish for use as bait in Vermont.

Eastern silvery minnow	Fathead minnow
Bluntnose minnow	Emerald shiner
Golden shiner	Spottail shiner
Common shiner	Mimic shiner
Creek chub	Fallfish
Blacknose dace	Longnose dace
Northern redbelly dace	White sucker
Longnose sucker	Rainbow Smelt

General Baitfish Use—Permitted Activities and Restrictions

- A minnow trap may be used for taking fish for bait, provided the trap does not exceed 18 inches in length and the opening for the entrance does not exceed 1 inch in diameter.
- Dip nets, cast nets and umbrella nets not exceeding a total of

51 square feet of mesh, or a seine not exceeding 25 feet in length, may be used for taking fish for bait from waters not listed as “Closed Trout Waters” (available as Title 10 Appendix V.S.A. Section 121 at town clerks’ offices and on the Internet at <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/chapters.cfm?Title=10APPENDIX>).

- Hook and line may be used to take fish for bait.
- Baitfish may be taken for personal use only, with the exception of rainbow smelt, which may be sold. Smelt may be taken only by angling or by fishing through the ice.
- A person may take, possess, transport, buy, and use as bait, only those species of fish listed above.
- Yellow Perch may be used for bait in those waters where taken, and shall not be transported alive from those waters.
- Vermont fishing license required.

Commercial Bait Dealers— Permitted Activities and Restrictions

- Any person who buys bait for resale or sells bait is required to obtain a Commercial Bait Dealers Permit (application available from the Fish & Wildlife Department).
- Persons shall not operate dip nets, cast nets, and umbrella nets exceeding 51 square feet of mesh, or a seine net exceeding 100 feet in length for the purpose of taking fish for bait without first obtaining a permit from the Commissioner.
- Bait netting is prohibited in all Closed Trout Waters unless otherwise provided for on the permit.
- A person may take, transport, buy, sell, and use as bait, only those species of fish listed above.
- A person intending to import or transport bait from another state or country must also have a Vermont Commercial Bait Dealer’s Permit prior to doing so.

Disposal of Unused Bait

Anglers shall not discard unused bait, dead or alive, into Vermont waters. Emptying bait buckets can lead to the introduction of undesirable species.

F2.8 YELLOW PERCH AND CRAPPIE LIMITS

In all cases, perch to be weighed shall not be skinned, dressed, filleted, gutted or beheaded.

Yellow Perch in all Vermont waters except Lake Champlain: Daily Limit of 50 fish or 20 pounds, whichever is greater, except if cleaned for consumption on the ice or water, in which case the numerical limit of 50 applies. Possession Limit of 100 fish or 40 pounds, whichever is greater. Businesses buying or selling may do so in excess of the limit with the approval of the Commissioner, pursuant to the guidelines of the Board.

Yellow Perch on Lake Champlain: Daily Limit of 75 fish or 30 pounds, whichever is greater, except if cleaned for consumption on the ice or water, in which case the numerical limit of 75 applies. Possession Limit of 150 fish or 60 pounds, whichever is greater. Businesses buying or selling may do so in excess of the

limit with approval of the Commissioner, pursuant to the guidelines of the Board.

Crappie in all Vermont waters: Minimum Length 8 inches. Daily Limit 25 fish (black crappie or white crappie combined). Possession Limit 50 fish. Businesses buying or selling may do so in excess of the limit with the approval of the Commissioner, pursuant to the guidelines of the Board.

F2.9 SALE AND PURCHASE OF FISH

A person shall not buy or sell a salmon, trout, lake trout, walleye, northern pike, muskellunge, or black bass taken in Vermont, or imported from another state or country where sale of such fish is prohibited. Exceptions to this rule are for the purpose of a game supper authorized by a permit or when such fish have been reared in a licensed propagation farm in Vermont.

F2.10 ANADROMOUS ATLANTIC SALMON

A person shall not take or attempt to take any anadromous Atlantic Salmon from the Vermont tributaries of the Connecticut River. Also, see Table 4, Connecticut River.

F2.11 ILLEGAL MEANS OF TAKING FISH

A person shall not use a spear gun to take any kind of fish in any waters.

A person shall not take or kill fish by shutting or drawing off water.

A person shall not take fish by means of explosives, or use explosives in any waters. A person may not have explosives in possession on any waters, shores, or on islands except for mining or mechanical purposes.

A person shall not place in any waters lime, creosote, coculus indicus or other drug or poison destructive to fish.

F2.12 FISHING TOURNAMENTS

In order for a person or organization to hold a fishing tournament on the waters of Vermont, a permit must first be obtained from the Fish & Wildlife Department in Waterbury (contact information **G2.0**, telephone 802-241-3702). An angler may not enter a fish which was caught and confined to an enclosed area prior to the beginning of the tournament.

F2.13 FISHING HOUSES

Fishing houses must have the name and address of the owner clearly marked on a weatherproof sign or tag of rustproof material in a clearly visible place near the entrance outside of the shanty.

Tents or other shelters are considered to be fishing houses if used for ice fishing.

A fishing house shall not be placed on the ice before November 20 and it shall be removed with its contents and any surrounding debris before the ice becomes unsafe or loses its ability to support the fishing house out of the water, or before the last Sunday in March, whichever comes first.

F2.14 FISH INTRODUCTION, STOCKING AND IMPORTATION

A person shall not introduce or attempt to introduce pickerel or northern pike into any waters.

A person shall not introduce or attempt to introduce any fish except trout or salmon into waters frequented by trout or salmon.

A person shall not import into Vermont to plant or introduce into any waters of this state any fish or spawn thereof, unless he/she has obtained a permit from Fish & Wildlife to do so. For more information, contact the Fish & Wildlife Department (contact information **G2.0**, telephone 802-241-3708).

F2.15 AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES

It is illegal to transport or introduce Eurasian watermilfoil or water chestnuts (exotic nuisance aquatic plants) or zebra mussels (an exotic clam-like animal). For descriptions of these species and ways to avoid transporting or introducing them or any other aquatic nuisance species, see section **F13.0**.

F 2.16 OBSTRUCTION TO FISH PASSAGE

People are prohibited from preventing the passing of fish in any stream or outlet or inlet of a natural or artificial pond on any public stream, by means of a rack, screen, weir or other obstruction, unless authorized by the district fisheries biologist.

F2.17 STATE-CONTROLLED FISHING ACCESS AREAS

No person shall make any use of a fishing access area acquired by the State of Vermont, except for the following purposes and with the following priorities:

1. For the purpose of launching boats to be used for fishing
2. For the purpose of parking vehicles and boat trailers used by persons engaged in fishing
3. For launching of petroleum powered inboard and outboard boats engaging in any activity, and parking of vehicles and boat trailers provided that these activities do not interfere with the first two purposes
4. Trappers and hunters may utilize access areas for their activities and then only in a manner that does not interfere with the first two activities above
5. By authorization of the Fish & Wildlife Commissioner with Board approval, utilization by organizations for organization functions for a specified time period. Contact the Fish & Wildlife Department (contact information **G2.0**, telephone 802-241-3730)

In addition, the launching of all non-motorized vessels not used for commercial purposes and the parking of vehicles and boat trailers used by these vessels are permitted.

The following uses of Fish & Wildlife access areas are prohibited:

- Launching of nonmotorized vessels used for commercial purposes and the parking of vehicles and trailers used by these vessels
- Discarding of bottles, glass, cans, paper, junk, litter, dead fish or wildlife, or portions of fish or wildlife
- Discarding of garbage and other household trash
- The washing or cleaning of any vehicle or animal
- Kindling of open fires
- Camping
- Swimming or water-skiing
- Snowmobiles and ATVs, except for those being utilized solely for the purpose of ice fishing
- Leaving boats unattended beyond October 15
- Leaving ice fishing houses unattended beyond April 15
- Installing docks at an access area

F2.18 LITTERING

A person shall not leave trash on the ice, in the water or on the shore or streambank.

F2.19 CAUTION: IT IS UNLAWFUL TO—

- Take fish except by angling unless otherwise stated
- Take trout and salmon through the ice during the regular season when fishing for these species is limited to angling
- Take fish in waters closed by regulations of the Fish & Wildlife Commissioner or Board. Such waters are posted.
- Buy or sell salmon; brook, brown, lake, or rainbow trout; largemouth or smallmouth bass; walleye; northern pike; or muskellunge taken in Vermont or imported from another state or country where such sale of fish is prohibited. The exceptions to this rule are for the purpose of a game supper authorized by a permit, or when the fish are reared in a licensed propagation farm in this state.
- Prevent the passing of fish in any stream or outlet or inlet of a natural or artificial pond on any public stream by means of rack, screen, weir or other obstruction. The exception to this rule is if obstruction is authorized by the Commissioner of Fish & Wildlife.
- Use a spear gun to take any kind of fish from any waters
- Take or kill fish by shutting off or drawing off water
- Use explosives to take fish, use explosives in any waters, or possess explosives in any waters or on their shores or islands, except for mining or mechanical purposes
- Place in any waters lime, cresosote, coculus indicus, or any other drug or poison destructive to fish
- Use, possess, or furnish to another person for use in taking fish any of the following devices: a pound net, trap net, seine,

snare, gill net, set net, fyke net, set line, fishing otter, trawl, grapple or similar devices, except as provided otherwise

- Take sturgeon or spiny softshell turtles
- Leave trash on the ice, in the water, or on the shore/streambank

F2.20 SPAWNING WATERS

Certain sections of some bodies of water are closed to fishing as “spawning waters.” They are listed as Exceptions in the Index of Rivers and Streams.

F2.21 RECORD FISH

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department maintains fish records for fish caught in Vermont in two categories—annual and state records. The most recent lists for both categories are on the department’s website. Entry forms are available from the department. Fish must be weighed on state inspected scales—any market scales are suggested. Length and girth measurements and a photo of the fish are required. The form must be witnessed. The body of water where the fish was caught must be listed. No fish which was confined to an enclosed area by a person prior to that person or any other person catching the fish may be accepted as a valid entry.

F2.22 LEAD SINKERS

Effective January 1, 2006 it will be illegal to sell or offer for sale a lead sinker in Vermont. “Sinker” means any device which weighs one-half ounce or less and is attached to a fishing line for the purpose of sinking the line, and does not include other lead fishing-related items such as weighted fly line, lead-core fishing line, downrigger cannonballs, weighted flies, lures, spoons, or jig heads.

Effective January 1, 2007 it will be illegal to use a lead sinker, as defined above, for the taking of fish in Vermont.

To learn more about how lead sinkers can be harmful to people and wildlife, go to **F15.0**.

F2.23 ICE FISHING FOR TROUT, SALMON AND BASS

Ice fishing for trout, salmon and bass is allowed on the following lakes from the **third Saturday in January** to the **second Sunday in March**. Length limits and daily limits are found in the Indexes and Tables.

Averill Lake (Big), Norton, Averill
Averill Lake (Little), Averill
Lake Bomoseen, Castleton, Hubbardton
Caspian Lake, Greensboro
Chittenden Reservoir, Chittenden
Crystal Lake, Barton
Lake Dunmore, Salisbury
Echo Lake, Charleston
Echo Lake, Plymouth
Eden Lake, Eden
Eligo Pond, Craftsbury
Lake Fairlee, Thetford, Fairlee, West Fairlee
Glen Lake, Castleton, Fair Haven, Benson
Harriman Reservoir, Whitingham, Wilmington
Harvey’s Lake, Barnet
Lake Hortonia, Sudbury, Hubbardton
Island Pond, Brighton
Joe’s Pond, Cabot, Danville
Maidstone Lake, Maidstone
Marshfield Reservoir, Cabot
Lake Memphremagog, Coventry, Derby, Newport
Miles Pond, Concord; Wallace Pond, Canaan
Lake Morey, Fairlee
Nelson Pond, Calais
Norton Pond, Norton
Parker Pond, Glover
Peacham Pond, Peacham
Pensioner Pond, Charleston
Lake Rescue, Ludlow; Echo Lake, Plymouth
Salem Pond, Derby
Seymour Lake, Morgan
Shadow Lake, Glover
Somerset Reservoir, Somerset
Lake St. Catherine, Wells, Poultney
Sunset Lake, Benson
Wallace Pond, Canaan
Waterbury Reservoir, Waterbury
Willoughby Lake, Westmore
Woodbury Lake, Calais



F3.0 INDEX OF RIVERS & STREAMS

For rivers, streams, brooks and creeks not listed in this index, see Table 1 (F5.0), Table 3 (F7.0), and Table 4 (F8.0).

Name(s)	Town	County	Table	Exceptions
ALDER BROOK (STONY BROOK)				
Black River to Sargent Pond outlet	Coventry	Orleans	1	D, U
Sargent Pond to headwaters	Coventry Newport	Orleans	1	D
BARTON RIVER				
Lake Memphremagog to downstream edge of the I-91 bridge in Irasburg	Coventry Irasburg	Orleans	1	C, D
Downstream edge of I-91 bridge, Irasburg, to granite arch RR bridge, Barton	Irasburg Barton	Orleans	1	D, P
Granite arch RR bridge, Barton, to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	Orleans	1	D
BATTENKILL RIVER				
NY border to base of Dufresne Dam in Manchester	Arlington Sunderland Manchester	Bennington	1	hh
Dufresne Dam in Manchester to headwaters, and all tributaries	All Applicable Towns	All Applicable Counties	1	
BLACK RIVER				
Lake Memphremagog to Bartlow Bridge #1, TH32, Coventry	Newport City Coventry	Orleans	1	C, D
Bartlow Bridge #1 on TH32 to US Rt 5 bridge, Coventry	Coventry	Orleans	1	C, D
US Rt 5 Bridge Coventry to 600' below Old Harman Mill, Coventry	Coventry	Orleans	1	D, P
600' below Old Harman Mill Falls, Coventry, to top of same falls	Coventry	Orleans	1	D, P, U
Top of Old Harman Mill Falls, Coventry, to Rts 14/58 Bridge, Irasburg	Coventry Irasburg	Orleans	1	D, P
VT Rts 14/58 Bridge to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	Orleans	1	D
BLACK RIVER				
CT R main channel to I-91 Bridge, Springfield	Springfield	Windsor	4	
I-91 Bridge to Gould's mill site, Springfield	Springfield	Windsor	2	H, W
Downers Covered Bridge 4 mi. to Howard Hill Bridge	Cavendish Weathersfield	Windsor	1	I
Howard Hill Bridge to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	All Applicable Counties	1	
BROWNINGTON BRANCH				
Willoughby R to 100' up TH 15 2nd bridge, Brownington	Brownington	Orleans	1	D, U
100' up TH 15, 2nd bridge, Brownington	Brownington	Orleans	1	D
CLYDE RIVER				
Lake Memphremagog to Gardner Park Bridge	Newport City	Orleans	1	D, F
Gardner Park Bridge to I-91 access bridge	Newport City	Orleans	1	D, F, O
I-91 access bridge to 292' down from Clyde St. Bridge	Newport City	Orleans	1	D, F, O
292' below Clyde St. Bridge to dam at Citizens #1; 2; 3 Powerhouse	Newport City	Orleans	1	D, O, T

Name(s)	Town	County	Table	Exceptions
CLYDE RIVER (continued)				
Dam at Citizens #1; 2; 3 Powerhouse, Newport, to Citizens West, Charleston, (Lubber Lake) Dam, W. Charleston	All Applicable Towns	Orleans	1	D
Citizens West Charleston Dam to 1/8 mi. downstream of Island Pond outlet	Charleston Brighton	Orleans Essex	1	
1/8 mi downstream of Island Pond outlet to Island Pond outlet	Brighton	Essex	1	U
CONNECTICUT RIVER (including tributaries, bays, and setbacks to 1st highway bridge)			4	
COUNTRY CLUB BROOK				
Willoughby River to TH14 Bridge, Barton	Barton	Orleans	1	D, U
TH 14 Bridge to headwaters	Barton	Orleans	1	D
DEAD CREEK				
Lake Champlain to Panton Rd Bridge	Panton	Addison	3	
DOG RIVER				
Winooski River, Berlin/Montpelier, to first VT Rt 12 Bridge upstream of Winooski River, Berlin	Montpelier Berlin	Washington	1	
First VT Rt 12 Bridge upstream of Winooski River, Berlin, upstream 4.3 miles to railroad bridge in West Berlin village, Berlin	Berlin	Washington	1	J
Railroad bridge in West Berlin village, Berlin, to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	Washington	1	
DORIN BROOK				
Lake Willoughby to 3/4 mi. upstream	Westmore	Orleans	1	U
EAST CREEK				
Lake Champlain to the falls	Orwell	Addison	3	
FLOWER BROOK				
Mettawee River, Dorset, to VT Rt 30 Bridge, Dorset	Dorset	Bennington	1	jj
VT Rt 30 Bridge, Dorset, to headwaters	Dorset	Bennington	1	
HALL'S BROOK				
Lake Memphremagog to the headwaters	Derby	Orleans	1	D
HATCHERY BROOK				
Lake Champlain to main drive for State Fish Hatchery	Grand Isle	Grand Isle		Closed to fishing
JEWETT BROOK				
Harvey's Lake to first highway bridge above Harvey's Lake	Barnet	Caledonia	1	U
JOHNS RIVER				
Lake Memphremagog to Town Highway 6 culverts	Derby	Orleans	1	D
Town Highway 6 culverts to Town Highway 3 Bridge	Derby	Orleans	1	D, V
Town Highway 3 Bridge to Town Highway 2 Bridge	Derby	Orleans	1	D, S, V
Town Highways 2 Bridge to US Rt 5 Bridge	Derby	Orleans	1	D, V
US Rt 5 Bridge to headwaters	Derby	Orleans	1	D
JOINER BROOK				
Winooski River upstream approx. 1900 feet to first falls	Bolton	Chittenden	1	J
First falls to headwaters	Bolton	Chittenden	1	

Name(s)	Town	County	Table	Exceptions
LAMOILLE RIVER				
Lake Champlain to West Milton Bridge	Milton	Chittenden	3	
West Milton Bridge to Peterson Dam	Milton	Chittenden	3	R
Peterson Dam to Georgia High Bridge, Georgia	All Applicable Towns	Chittenden Franklin	2	H, L
Georgia High Bridge, Georgia, to VT Rt 104 Bridge, Fairfax	Georgia Fairfax	Franklin	2	H, L, W
VT Rt 104 Bridge, Fairfax, to Fairfax Falls Dam	Fairfax	Franklin	2	H, I, L, W
Fairfax Falls Dam to VT Rt 15 Bridge, Johnson	Johnson	Lamoille	1	
VT Rt 15 Bridge, Johnson, upstream 2.3 miles to Railroad Street Bridge in Johnson	Johnson	Lamoille	1	ii
Railroad Street Bridge in Johnson to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	All Applicable Counties	1	
LAPLATTE RIVER				
Lake Champlain to the falls in Shelburne, downstream of State Aid Rd #2	Shelburne	Chittenden	3	
LEACH CREEK				
CT R. main channel to VT Rt 102 Bridge, Canaan	Canaan	Essex	4	
LEWIS CREEK				
Lake Champlain to falls in N. Ferrisburg, just upstream of State Aid Rd #1	Ferrisburg	Addison	3	
Falls in N. Ferrisburg to Town Highway 3 (State Prison, Hollow Road) Bridge, Starksboro	All Applicable Towns	Addison	3	W, gg
Town Highway 3 Bridge, Starksboro, to headwaters	Starksboro Bristol	Addison	1	
LIGHTNING BROOK				
Back Pond to Natural Falls 2 mi upstream	Brighton	Essex	1	U
LILLIEVILLE BROOK				
White River in Stockbridge to L Brk 2nd bridge, Bethel	Stockbridge Bethel	Windsor	1	N
LITTLE OTTER CREEK				
Lake Champlain to falls in Ferrisburg Center	Ferrisburg	Chittenden	3	
LITTLE RIVER				
Winooski River to US Rt 2 Bridge	Waterbury	Washington	1	I
US Rt 2 Bridge to its beginning at base of Waterbury Dam	Waterbury	Washington	1	
LOCUST CREEK				
White River, Bethel, to VT Rt 12 2nd bridge, Barnard	Bethel Barnard	Windsor	1	N
LULLS BROOK				
CT R main channel to I-91 Bridge, Hartland	Hartland	Windsor	4	
MALLETS CREEK				
Lk Champlain to Rts #2 and #7	Milton	Chittenden	3	
METTAWEE RIVER				
NY border to VT Rt 153 Bridge, Pawlet	Pawlet	Rutland	1	
VT Rt 153 Bridge, Pawlet, upstream to first bridge on Dorset Hollow Rd (including Flower Brook upstream	Pawlet Rupert	Rutland		

Name(s)	Town	County	Table	Exceptions
METTAWEE RIVER (continued)				
to VT Rt 30 Bridge in Pawlet)	Dorset	Bennington	1	jj
First bridge on Dorset Hollow Rd, Dorset, to headwaters	Dorset	Bennington	1	
MILL BROOK				
CT R main channel to US Rt 5 Bridge, Windsor	Windsor	Windsor	4	
MILL BROOK				
Willoughby Lake to 1/4 mile upstream	Westmore	Orleans	1	U
MILL RIVER				
Lake Champlain to falls in Georgia	Georgia	Franklin	3	
MISSISQUOI RIVER				
Lk Champlain to Riverside Cemetery, 5120' below Swanton Dam	Highgate Swanton	Franklin	3	
Riverside Cemetery to 850' below Swanton Dam	Swanton	Franklin	3	Q
850' below Swanton Dam to Swanton Dam	Swanton	Franklin	3	R
Swanton Dam to Highgate Falls Dam	Swanton Highgate	Franklin	2	H, L, M
Highgate Falls Dam to Rixford Dam	Highgate Swanton	Franklin	2	H
Rixford Dam to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	All Applicable Counties	1	
MUD CREEK				
Lake Champlain to the dam	Alburg	Grand Isle	3	
MYERS BROOK				
Willoughby Lake to 1/2 mi upstream	Westmore	Orleans	1	U
NEW HAVEN RIVER				
Otter Creek, New Haven, to Munger Street Bridge, New Haven	New Haven	Addison	1	
Munger Street bridge, New Haven, upstream 4.1 miles to South Street Bridge, Bristol	New Haven Bristol	Addison	1	J
South Street Bridge, Bristol, to headwaters	Bristol	Addison	1	
NULHEGAN RIVER				
CT R main channel to VT Rt 102 Bridge, Bloomfield	Bloomfield	Essex	4	
OMPOMANOOSUC RIVER				
CT R main channel to US Rt 5, Norwich	Norwich	Windsor	4	
US 5 Bridge to Union Village COE Dam	Norwich Thetford	Windsor Orange	2	H, W
Union Village COE Dam to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	All Applicable Counties	1	
OTTAUQUECHEE RIVER				
CT R main channel to 1st highway bridge crossing, Hartland	Hartland	Windsor	4	
OTTER CREEK				
Lake Champlain to falls at Vergennes	Vergennes	Addison	3	
Falls at Vergennes to Center Rutland Falls	Vergennes Rutland	Addison Rutland	2	H, W
Center Rutland Falls to VT Railway Bridge, Danby	All Applicable Towns	Rutland	1	
VT Railway Bridge in Danby to Forest Rd #10 Bridge, Mt. Tabor	Danby Mt. Tabor	Rutland	1	I
Forest Rd #10 Bridge, Mt. Tabor, to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	Bennington Rutland	1	

Name(s)	Town	County	Table	Exceptions
OUTLET BROOK Echo Lake to Seymour Lake Dam	Charleston	Orleans	1	U
PASSUMPSIC RIVER CT R main channel to 1st Highway Bridge crossing, Barnet	Barnet	Caledonia	4	
PAUL STREAM CT R main channel to VT Rt 102 Bridge, Maidstone	Maidstone	Essex	4	
PINNEO BROOK Winooski River upstream approx. 100 ft to railroad crossing	Bolton	Chittenden	1	J
Railroad crossing to headwaters	Bolton	Chittenden	1	
PORTER BROOK Caspian Lake to origin	Greensboro	Orleans	1	U
POULTNEY RIVER Lk Champlain to Carver Falls, West Haven	West Haven	Rutland	3	
PRESTON BROOK Winooski River upstream approx. 2600 ft to first falls	Bolton	Chittenden	1	J
First falls to headwaters	Bolton Huntington	Chittenden	1	
RIDLEY BROOK Winooski River upstream approx. 1700 ft. to first falls	Duxbury	Washington	1	J
First falls to headwaters	Duxbury	Washington	1	
ROCK RIVER Lake Champlain to 1st Canadian line crossing	Highgate	Franklin	3	
SAXTONS RIVER CT R main channel to US Rt 5 Bridge, Westminster	Westminster	Windham	4	
SCHOOLHOUSE BROOK Willoughby Lake to 1/4 mi. upstream	Westmore	Orleans	1	U, D
STEVENS RIVER CT R main channel to 1st Highway Bridge crossing, Barnet	Barnet	Caledonia	4	
STONY BROOK (ALDER BROOK) Black River to Sargent Pond outlet	Coventry	Orleans	1	D, U
VALLEY BROOK Seymour Lake to Valley Rd Bridge	Morgan	Orleans	1	S, V
Valley Rd Bridge in Morgan to origin	Morgan Holland	Orleans	1	V
WAITS RIVER CT R main channel to US Rt 5 Bridge, Bradford	Bradford	Orange	4	
US Rt 5 Bridge to CVPS Dam, Bradford	Bradford	Orange	2	H
CVPS Dam, Bradford, to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	All Applicable Counties	1	
WARE BROOK Town Highway 8 culvert to falls to 1 mi. upstream	Irasburg	Orleans	1	D, U
WELLS BROOK Willoughby Lake to origin	Westmore	Orleans	1	U
WELLS RIVER CT R main channel to Us Rt 302 Bridge, Newbury	Newbury	Orange	4	
WEST RIVER CT R main channel to Us Rt 5 Bridge, Brattleboro	Brattleboro	Windham	4	

Name(s)	Town	County	Table	Exceptions
WEST RIVER (continued) US Rt 5 Bridge, Brattleboro, to Townshend Dam, Townshend	Brattleboro Dummerston Newfane Townshend	Windham	2	H, W
Townshend Dam, Townshend, to VT Rt 100 Bridge, Jamaica	Townshend Jamaica	Windham	2	H
Vt Rt 100 Bridge, Jamaica, to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	All Applicable Counties	1	
WHITE RIVER CT R main channel to Bridge St. Bridge (US Rt 5), Hartford	Hartford	Windsor	4	
Bridge St. Bridge (US Rt 5), Hartford, to VT Rt 107 Bridge, Bethel	Towns	All Applicable Windsor	2	H, W
Cleveland Brook, Bethel, to Lillieville Brook, Stockbridge	Bethel Stockbridge	Windsor	1	K
Lillieville Brook, Stockbridge, to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	All Applicable Counties	1	
WILLIAMS RIVER CT R main channel to US Rt 5 Bridge, Rockingham	Rockingham	Windham	4	
US Rt 5 Bridge to Brockway Mills Falls, Rockingham	Rockingham	Windham	2	H, W
Brockway Mills Falls, Rockingham, to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	All Applicable Counties	1	
WILLOUGHBY RIVER Barton River to Orleans/ Brownington Rd. Bridge	Barton	Orleans	1	D, P
Orleans/ Brownington Rd Bridge to natural falls top	Barton	Orleans	1	D, P, U
Natural falls top to Brownington Branch confluence	Barton Brownington	Orleans	1	D, P
Brownington Branch confluence to Whetstone Dam at Evansville	Brownington	Orleans	1	D, P, U
Whetstone Dam at Evansville to Willoughby Lake outlet	Brownington Barton Westmore	Orleans	1	D, P
WINOOSKI RIVER Lake Champlain to downstream side of Blue (RR) Bridge	Burlington Winooski	Chittenden	3	
Blue (RR) Bridge to ledges west of Rt 7, Winooski/Burlington	Burlington Winooski	Chittenden	3	R
Ledges west of US Rt 7, Winooski, to Preston Brook, Bolton	All Applicable Towns	Chittenden	1	H, W
Preston Brook upstream 4.4 miles to Ridley Brook mouth (including Preston Brook upstream to first falls, Joiner Brook upstream to first falls, Pinneo Brook upstream to railroad crossing, and Ridley Brook upstream to first falls)	Bolton Duxbury Waterbury	Chittenden Washington	1	J, H, W
Ridley Brook, Duxbury, to Bolton Dam, Duxbury/ Waterbury	Duxbury Waterbury	Washington	1	H, W
Bolton Dam to Smith Store, US Rt 2 Bridge, Waterbury	Duxbury Waterbury	Washington	1	I
Smith Store US Rt 2 Bridge, Waterbury, to headwaters	All Applicable Towns	All Applicable Counties	1	

F4.0 INDEX OF LAKES & PONDS

For lakes, ponds, reservoirs, and impoundments NOT LISTED in this Index, see F6.0 (Table 2: Lakes, ponds reservoirs, impoundments with names) and F7.0 (Table 3: Lake Champlain as defined in F1.1)

Name(s)	Town	County	Table	Exceptions
AMHERST LAKE	Plymouth	Windsor	2	B
ANSEL POND	Bethel	Windsor	5	
BACK POND Southeasterly of a line as posted on to site	Brighton	Essex	2	U
BAKER POND	Barton	Orleans	5	D
	Brookfield	Orange	2	dd, ff
BALD HILL POND	Westmore	Orleans	5	
BANCROFT POND	Plainfield	Washington	5	
BEAN POND	Sutton	Caledonia	5	D
BEAVER POND	Holland	Orleans	5	
BECK POND	Newark	Caledonia	5	
BEEBE POND	Sunderland	Bennington	5	
BIG AVERILL LAKE (GREAT AVERILL LAKE)	Averill/ Norton	Essex	5	A, B, C
BIG FISH POND (VAIL POND)	Sutton	Caledonia	5	D
BIG SALEM LAKE (SALEM LAKE)	Derby	Orleans	2	C, D, G
BLAKE POND	Sutton	Caledonia	2	D
BOMOSEEN, LAKE	Castleton Hubbardton	Rutland	2	G
BOURN POND	Sunderland	Bennington	5	
BRANCH POND	Sunderland	Bennington	5	
BROWN POND	Westmore	Caledonia Orleans	5	
BROWNINGTON POND	Brownington Derby	Orleans	2	D
BRUCE POND	Sheffield	Caledonia	5	
CARMI, LAKE (FRANKLIN POND)	Franklin	Franklin	2	X
CASPIAN LAKE	Greensboro	Orleans	5	A, B, C
CENTER POND	Newark	Caledonia	5	B
CHAMPLAIN, LAKE			3	
CHITTENDEN RESERVOIR	Chittenden	Rutland	2	G, cc
CLARK POND (TILDY'S POND)	Glover	Orleans	2	D
CLYDE POND	Derby	Orleans	2	D
COBB POND	Derby	Orleans	2	D
COLBY POND	Plymouth	Windsor	5	dd
COLTON POND	Sherburne	Rutland	5	dd
COMERFORD RESERVOIR (CT RIVER)	Waterford Concord	Caledonia Essex	4	
COW MOUNTAIN POND	Granby	Essex	5	
CRYSTAL LAKE	Barton	Orleans	5	A, B, C, D
DANIELS POND	Glover	Orleans	2	D
DENNIS POND	Brunswick	Essex	5	
DERBY POND	Derby	Orleans	2	D
DUCK POND	Craftsbury	Orleans	2	D
DUCK POND	Sheffield	Caledonia	2	D
DUCK POND	Sutton	Caledonia	2	D
DUNMORE, LAKE North of a line from Sucker Brook to the island	Salisbury Leicester	Addison	5	A, B
South of a line from Sucker Brook to the island	Salisbury Leicester	Addison	2	B, G

Name(s)	Town	County	Table	Exceptions
EAST LONG POND	Woodbury	Washington	5	B
ECHO LAKE	Charleston	Orleans	5	A, B, C
ECHO LAKE	Plymouth	Windsor	2	B, G
EDEN, LAKE	Eden	Lamoille	2	G
ELLIGO, LAKE	Craftsbury Greensboro	Orleans	2	B, D, G
EWELL POND	Peacham	Caledonia	5	dd
FAIRLEE, LAKE	Thetford Fairlee W. Fairlee	Orange	2	G
FOREST LAKE	Averill	Essex	5	
FOREST LAKE (NELSON POND)	Calais Woodbury	Washington	5	A, B
FRANKLIN POND (LAKE CARMI)	Franklin	Franklin	2	X
GLEN LAKE	Castleton Fair Haven Benson	Rutland	2	G
GOSHEN DAM (SUGAR HILL RESERVOIR)	Goshen	Addison	5	
GREAT AVERILL LAKE (BIG AVERILL LAKE)	Averill Norton	Essex	5	A, B, C
GREAT HOSMER POND	Craftsbury Albany	Orleans	2	D
GRIGGS POND	Albany	Orleans	2	D
HARRIMAN RESERVOIR	Whitingham Wilmington	Windham	2	G
HARTWELL POND	Albany	Orleans	5	D
HARVEYS LAKE North of posted line	Barnet	Caledonia	2	B, C, G
South of posted line	Barnet	Caledonia	5	A, B, C
HOLLAND POND	Holland	Orleans	5	
HORTON POND (LAKE HORTONIA)	Hubbardton Sudbury	Rutland	2	G
HORTONIA, LAKE (HORTON POND)	Hubbardton Sudbury	Rutland	2	G
ISLAND POND	Brighton	Essex	2	C, G
JOBS POND	Westmore	Orleans	5	dd
JOES POND	Cabot Danville	Washington Caledonia	2	B, G
KENT POND	Sherburne	Rutland	2	ff
KIDDER POND	Irasburg	Orleans	2	D
KNAPP POND #1	Reading Cavendish	Windsor	5	dd
KNAPP POND #2	Reading Cavendish	Windsor	5	dd
LEFFERTS POND	Chittenden	Rutland	5	
LEVI POND	Groton	Caledonia	5	dd
LEWIS POND	Lewis	Essex	5	dd
LITTLE AVERILL LAKE	Averill	Essex	5	B, C, Z
LITTLE ELMORE POND	Elmore	Lamoille	5	
LITTLE HOSMER POND	Craftsbury	Orleans	2	D
LITTLE ROCKY POND	Wallingford	Rutland	5	
LITTLE SALEM LAKE	Derby	Orleans	2	C, D, G
LONG POND	Sheffield	Caledonia	2	D
LONG POND	Westmore	Orleans	5	B
MAIDSTONE LAKE	Maidstone	Essex	5	A, B, C
MARSHFIELD DAM (MOLLYS FALLS RESERVOIR)	Cabot	Washington	2	G

Name(s)	Town	County	Table	Exceptions
MARTINS POND	Peacham	Caledonia	5	dd
MAY POND	Barton	Orleans	5	D
McINTOSH POND	Royalton	Windsor	5	dd
MEMPHREMAGOG, LAKE Main lake, west of US Rt 5 Causeway Bridge	Newport Derby Coventry	Orleans	2	B, C, D, G
Gardner Park zone, between Long Bridge and Causeway	Newport	Orleans	2	B, C, D, F, G
South Bay zone, south of Long Bridge	Newport	Orleans	2	B, C, D, G
MENDON BEAVER POND	Mendon	Rutland	5	dd
MILES POND	Concord	Essex	2	G
MILLER POND	Strafford	Orange	5	dd
MOLLYS FALLS RESERVOIR	Cabot	Washington	2	G
MOORE DAM RESERVOIR (CT RIVER)	Waterford	Caledonia	4	
MOREY, LAKE	Fairlee	Orange	2	G, Y
MUD POND	Craftsbury	Orleans	2	D
MUD POND	Hyde Park	Lamoille	5	
MUD POND	Irasburg	Orleans	2	D
MUD POND	Sheffield	Caledonia	2	D
NELSON POND (FOREST LAKE)	Calais Woodbury	Washington	5	A, B
NEWARK POND	Newark	Caledonia	5	dd
NICHOLS POND	Woodbury	Washington	5	B
NORTON BROOK RESERVOIR	Bristol	Addison	2	dd
NORTON POND	Norton Warrens Gore	Essex	5	A
NOTCH POND	Ferdinand	Essex	5	
NOYES POND (SEYON POND)	Groton	Caledonia	5	E
PAGE POND	Albany	Orleans	2	D
PARKER, LAKE	Glover	Orleans	2	C, D, G
PAUL STREAM POND	Brunswick	Essex	5	
PEACHAM POND	Peacham	Caledonia	5	A
PENSIONER POND	Charleston	Orleans	2	G
PERCH POND	Wolcott	Lamoille	5	
PIGEON POND	Groton	Caledonia	5	
POTTERS POND	Albany	Orleans	2	D
RED MILL POND	Woodford	Bennington	5	dd
RESCUE LAKE	Ludlow	Windsor	2	B, G
ROOD POND	Williamstown Brookfield	Orange	5	dd
ROUND POND	Holland	Orleans	5	
ROUND POND	Sheffield	Caledonia	2	D
SABIN POND (WOODBURY LAKE)	Calais Woodbury	Washington	2	G
SALEM LAKE (BIG SALEM LAKE)	Derby	Orleans	2	C, D, G
ST. CATHERINE LAKE	Wells Poultney	Rutland	2	B, G
SARGENT POND	Coventry	Orleans	2	D
SEYMOUR LAKE	Morgan Charleston	Orleans	5	B, Z
SEYON POND (NOYES POND)	Groton	Caledonia	5	E
SHADOW LAKE	Glover	Orleans	5	A, B, C, D
SHELburne POND	Shelburne	Chittenden	2	L
SHREWSBURY POND (SPRING LAKE)	Shrewsbury	Rutland	5	B
SILVER LAKE	Leicester	Addison	5	
SMITH POND	Newport	Orleans	2	D

Name(s)	Town	County	Table	Exceptions
SMITH POND	Pittsford	Rutland	5	
SOMERSET RESERVOIR	Somerset Stratton	Windham	2	G
SOUTH AMERICA POND	Ferdinand	Essex	5	
SOUTH POND	Marlboro	Windham	5	
SPRING LAKE (SHREWSBURY POND)	Shrewsbury	Rutland	5	B
STERLING POND	Cambridge	Lamoille	2	dd
STOUGHTON POND	Weathersfield	Windsor	5	
STRATTON POND	Stratton	Windham	5	
SUGAR HILL RESERVOIR (GOSHEN DAM)	Goshen	Addison	5	
SUNSET LAKE	Benson Orwell	Rutland	5	A, B
SWEENEY POND	Glover	Orleans	5	D
TILDYS POND (CLARK POND)	Glover	Orleans	2	D
UNKNOWN POND	Avery's Gore	Essex	5	
UNKNOWN POND	Ferdinand	Essex	5	
VAIL POND (BIG FISH POND)	Sutton	Caledonia	5	D
WALKER POND	Coventry	Orleans	2	D
WALLACE POND	Canaan	Essex	2	B, C, G
WATERBURY RESERVOIR	Waterbury Stowe	Washington Lamoille	2	G
WEST MT. POND	Maidstone	Essex	5	
WHEELER POND	Barton Caledonia	Orleans	5	D
WILLOUGHBY, LAKE	Westmore	Orleans	5	A, B, C
WOODBURY LAKE (SABIN POND)	Calais Woodbury	Washington	2	G
ZACK WOODS POND	Hyde Park Wolcott	Lamoille	5	

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F5.0 TABLE 1: General Fishing Regulations for Rivers, Streams, Associated Beaver Ponds, and Unnamed Impoundments

Also, see **F3.0** (Index of Rivers & Streams), **F4.0** (Index of Lakes & Ponds), and **F10.0** (Exceptions).

Species	Length Rules	Daily Limit	Legal Methods	Open Seasons
ANADROMOUS ATLANTIC SALMON		0		No open season
LAKE STURGEON		0		No open season
BROOK TROUT and BROWN TROUT and RAINBOW TROUT	none	Total of brook + brown+ rainbow = no more than 12 Total of brown + rainbows = no more than 6	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
LAKE TROUT	18"	Total of lake trout + landlocked salmon = no more than 2	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
LANDLOCKED SALMON	15"			
AMERICAN SHAD	None	2	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
LARGEMOUTH BASS and SMALLMOUTH BASS	None	Total of largemouth + smallmouth = no more than 5	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
WALLEYE	15"	5	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
NORTHERN PIKE	20"	5		
MUSKELLUNGE	30"	1		
RAINBOW SMELT	None	None	Angling ¹	Last Sat. in May to last Sun in Oct.
MINNOWS (See F2.7, BAITFISH USE)	None	None	Angling ¹ Minnow traps & nets	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct. All year
YELLOW PERCH	None	See F2.8, YELLOW PERCH & CRAPPIE	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
CRAPPIE	8"	25	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
ALL OTHER SPECIES	None	None	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.

¹ Angling in Table 1 waters is limited to 2 lines or less. No more than 1 baited hook, 3 artificial flies, or 1 lure with or without bait may be used per line.

F6.0 TABLE 2: General Fishing Regulations for Lakes, Ponds, Impoundments, Reservoirs, and Particular Rivers and Streams

Also, see **F3.0** (Index of Rivers & Streams), **F4.0** (Index of Lakes & Ponds), and **F10.0** (Exceptions).

Species	Length Rules	Daily Limit	Legal Methods	Open Seasons
ANADROMOUS ATLANTIC SALMON		0		No open season
LAKE STURGEON		0		No open season
BROOK TROUT and BROWN TROUT and RAINBOW TROUT	none	Total of brook + brown+ rainbow = no more than 6. Total weight = no more than 5 lbs.	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
LAKE TROUT	18"	Total of lake trout + landlocked salmon = no more than 2	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
LANDLOCKED SALMON	15"			
AMERICAN SHAD	None	2	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
LARGEMOUTH BASS and SMALLMOUTH BASS		0	Catch & release angling w/ artificial lures & flies only ¹	2nd Sat. in April to Fri. before 2nd Sat. in June
SMALLMOUTH BASS	10"	Total of largemouth + smallmouth = no more than 5	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in June to Nov. 30
WALLEYE	15"	5	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	All year
NORTHERN PIKE	20"	5		
MUSKELLUNGE	30"	1		
RAINBOW SMELT	None	None Ice fishing ²	Angling ¹ , to March 31	Last Sat. in May
CARP, SUCKERS, BOWFIN, MULLET, GAR	None	None	Angling ¹ , Bow w/arrow attached to line, Ice fishing ²	All year
MINNOWS (See F2.7, BAITFISH USE)	None	None	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ² , Minnow traps & nets	All year
YELLOW PERCH	None	See F2.8, YELLOW PERCH & CRAPPIE	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	All year
CRAPPIE	8"	25	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	All year
ALL OTHER SPECIES	None	None	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	All year

¹ Angling in Table 2 waters is limited to not more than 2 lines with not more than 2 baited hooks, 2 lures, or 3 artificial flies per line.

² Ice fishing in Table 2 waters is limited to not more than 8 lines, with not more than 2 baited hooks, 2 lures, or 3 artificial flies per line.

F7.0 TABLE 3: General Fishing Regulations for Lake Champlain

Includes the setbacks at the same water level and the lower portion of its tributaries, except spawning waters Exception R.
(See the definition of Lake Champlain in **F1.1**, **F4.0** (Index of Lakes & Ponds), and **F10.0** (Exceptions)). See licenses **F2.1**.

Species	Length Rules	Daily Limit	Legal Methods	Open Seasons
LAKE STURGEON		0		No open season
BROOK TROUT and BROWN TROUT and RAINBOW TROUT	12"	Total of brook + brown+ rainbow = no more than 3	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	All year
LAKE TROUT	15"	3	Angling ¹ ,	All year
LANDLOCKED SALMON	15"	2	Ice fishing ²	
LARGEMOUTH BASS and SMALLMOUTH BASS		0	Catch & release angling ¹ w/artificial lures & flies only	2nd Sat. in April to Friday before 2nd Sat. in June
	10"	Total of largemouth + smallmouth = no more than 5	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in June to Nov. 30
WALLEYE	18"	5	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	1st Sat. in May to March 15
SAUGER	None	None	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	1st Sat. in May to March 15
MINNOWS (See F2.7 , BAITFISH USE)	None	None	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ² , Minnow traps & nets	All year
CHAIN PICKEREL	None	10	Shooting, spearing	March 25 to May 25
			Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	All year
NORTHERN PIKE	20"	5	Shooting, spearing	March 25 to May 25
			Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	All year
MUSKELLUNGE	30"	1	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	All year
SMELT	None	None	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	All year
CARP, SUCKERS, BOWFIN, MULLET, GAR	None	None	Angling ¹ , Bow w/arrow attached to line, Ice fishing ²	All year
			Shooting, spearing	March 25 to May 25
BULLHEAD, SHAD OTHER CULL FISH	None	None	Angling ¹ , Bow w/arrow attached to line, Ice fishing ²	All year
			Shooting, spearing	March 25 to May 25
YELLOW PERCH	None	See F2.8 , YELLOW PERCH & CRAPPIE	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	All year
CRAPPIE	8"	25	Angling ¹ , Ice fishing ²	All year

¹ Angling in Table 3 waters is limited to not more than 2 lines with not more than 2 baited hooks, 2 lures, or 3 artificial flies per line.

² Ice fishing in Table 3 waters is limited to not more than 15 lines, with not more than 2 baited hooks, 2 lures, or 3 artificial flies per line.

F8.0 TABLE 4: General Fishing Regulations for the Connecticut River

LAW RE: CONNECTICUT RIVER BETWEEN VERMONT AND NEW HAMPSHIRE

Pursuant to the laws of the State of New Hampshire (RSA 211:5) and the laws of the State of Vermont (10 VSA 4609) relating to the taking and possession of fish in the Connecticut River, a person shall not take fish except as herein provided in that part of the Connecticut River lying in and between the State of Vermont and the State of New Hampshire described as follows:

Beginning on the boundary between the State of Vermont and the State of New Hampshire at the northeast corner of the Town of Canaan in the County of Essex to a point on the opposite bank of the Connecticut River near the mouth of Fayreau Brook, so-called, in the Town of Clarksville, County of Coos and State of New Hampshire, southerly to a point on the boundary between the State of Vermont and the State of New Hampshire at the southeast corner of the Town of Vernon, County of Windham and State of Vermont to a point on the opposite bank of the Connecticut River in the Town of Hinsdale in the County of Cheshire and State of New Hampshire, including bays, setbacks, and major tributaries only to the first highway bridge crossing said tributaries on the Vermont and New Hampshire side.

A person who holds either a Vermont or New Hampshire fishing license may take fish by angling and ice fishing as provided by New Hampshire Statute unless otherwise provided herein as follows:

VALIDITY OF LICENSES

For the purposes of this PART, "Connecticut River" means all waters of the river including the bays, setbacks and tributaries, only to the first highway bridge crossing said tributaries on the Vermont and New Hampshire sides.

A person with a New Hampshire or Vermont Resident Fishing License may take fish by angling or ice fishing in the Connecticut River.

A person holding a New Hampshire non-resident license may take fish only from that portion of the Connecticut River east of the Vermont low water mark (VT/NH boundary).

A person holding a Vermont non-resident license may take fish only from that portion of the Connecticut River west of the Vermont low water mark (VT/NH boundary).

FIS 408.02 TROUT

The season for taking brook, brown, or rainbow trout by all legal methods shall open on January 1 and close October 15.

The daily bag limit through open water shall be five (5) fish or 5 pounds, except in that portion of the river from the Samuel Moore Dam downstream to the Rt. 18 Bridge, where the daily bag limit shall be one (1) fish.

The daily bag limit through ice shall be two (2) fish, except in that portion of the river from the Samuel Moore Dam downstream to the Rt. 18 Bridge, where the daily limit shall be one (1) fish.

FIS 408.03 SALMON

No person shall take or attempt to take from the river or possess on the waters or shores of the river any Atlantic Salmon, except at such times as the Interstate Atlantic Salmon Commission declares an open season in the river or in specified sections of the river. The Commission has not declared an open season.

FIS 408.04 BLACK BASS

There shall be no closed season for taking black bass by all legal methods, except as otherwise provided in FIS 408.10.

The daily bag limits shall be as follows:

- The daily bag limit for black bass shall be two (2) fish from January 1 through May 14 and from June 16 through June 30
- Between May 15 and June 15 all black bass shall be immediately released unharmed at the site of the catch to the waters from which taken; and
- The daily limit for black bass from July 1 through December 31 shall be five (5) fish

There shall be no limits on length or weight.

During the period beginning May 15 and ending June 15, black bass shall be taken only by artificial lures and flies.

FIS 408.05 WALLEYE OR PIKE PERCH

There shall be no closed season for taking walleye by all legal methods, except as provided in FIS 408.10.

No person shall take walleye 16 to 18 inches in length.

The daily bag limit shall be four (4) fish, of which only one can be larger than 18 inches.

FIS 408.06 PICKEREL

There shall be no closed season for taking pickerel by all legal methods, except as otherwise provided in FIS 408.10.

The daily bag limit shall be ten (10) fish.

FIS 408.07 HORNED POUT

There shall be no closed season for taking horned pout by all legal methods, except as otherwise provided in FIS 408.10.

There shall be no daily bag, length or weight limits.

FIS 408.08 CARP

There shall be no closed season for taking carp by any legal method, or by means of long bow and arrow with cord attached, in that part of the Connecticut River beginning at the point on the northern boundary of Grafton County in New Hampshire which is directly opposite the town of Concord, Vermont, and ending to the south at the Massachusetts border.

FIS 408.09 ICE FISHING FOR CERTAIN SPECIES

A person shall be permitted to take all species except salmon through the ice during the open seasons for such species, except as otherwise provided in FIS 408.10.

Not more than two hand lines shall be used at any one time for such taking.

Not more than 6 tip-ups or bobs shall be used at any one time for such taking.

A person shall have personal control over the devices specified above at all times, whether operated or not, and shall visit them at least once each hour.

Notwithstanding the limits above, no more than 6 devices in combination shall be used at any one time for such taking.

- Wilder Dam in Wilder, VT, and Lebanon, NH, shall be closed to all fishing 150 feet below the dam

FIS 408.15 METHOD OF TAKING IN OPEN WATER

Any person fishing in open water shall use no more than 2 lines.

F9.0 TABLE 5: General Fishing Regulations for Certain Lakes and Ponds listed in F4.0 (Index of Lakes & Ponds)

Also, see **F10.0** (Exceptions).

Species	Length Rules	Daily Limit	Legal Methods	Open Seasons
ANADROMOUS ATLANTIC SALMON		0		No open season
LAKE STURGEON		0		No open season
BROOK TROUT and BROWN TROUT and RAINBOW TROUT	none	Total of brook + brown+ rainbow = no more than 6. Total weight = no more than 5 lbs.	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
LAKE TROUT	18"	Total of lake trout + landlocked salmon = no more than 2	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
LANDLOCKED SALMON	15"			
AMERICAN SHAD	None	2	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
LARGEMOUTH BASS and		0	Catch & release angling w/ artificial lures & flies only ¹	2nd Sat. in April to Fri. before 2nd Sat. in June
SMALLMOUTH BASS	10"	Total of largemouth + smallmouth = no more than 5		
WALLEYE	15"	5	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
NORTHERN PIKE	20"	5		
MUSKELLUNGE	30"	1		
RAINBOW SMELT	None	None	Angling ¹	Last Sat. in May to last Sun. in Oct.
MINNOWS (See F2.7, BAITFISH USE)	None	None	Angling ¹	Last Sat. in May to last Sun. in Oct.
			Minnow traps & nets	All year
YELLOW PERCH	None	See F2.8, YELLOW PERCH & CRAPPIE	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
CRAPPIE	8"	25	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.
ALL OTHER SPECIES	None	None	Angling ¹	2nd Sat. in April to last Sun. in Oct.

¹ Angling in Table 5 waters, except in Little Averill and Seymour Lakes, is limited to not more than 2 lines, with not more than 1 baited hook, 3 artificial flies, or 1 lure with or without bait per line.

FIS 408.10 CLOSED SEASON IN A CERTAIN PORTION OF RIVER

The Connecticut River shall be closed to the taking of all species from October 16 to December 31, in the portion of the river beginning at the confluence of the Upper Ammonoosuc River and ending at the northern boundary of the town of Canaan, Vermont.

From a point of 1600 feet upstream from the bridge in North Stratford, upstream to a point 250 feet below the Lyman Falls Dam in North Stratford, and marked by a sign, the following restrictions shall apply:

- Fishing shall be permitted by artificial lures and flies only, and all lures and flies shall have barbless hooks or shall have all barbs pinched so that they will not interfere with removal of the hook from the fish, and
- All fish shall be immediately released unharmed to the waters

FIS 408.11 LIABILITY FOR PROSECUTION

Violators of the provisions of this part shall be liable to prosecution under the laws of both Vermont and New Hampshire.

FIS 408.12 AMERICAN SHAD

There shall be no closed season for taking American (sea-run) shad by all legal fishing methods from the waters of New Hampshire, except as otherwise provided in Chapter FIS 500. Such taking from designated brook trout waters shall be prohibited from October 16 to the Friday before the fourth Saturday in April.

The bag limit shall be two (2) fish.

There shall be no length or weight limit of fish taken.

FIS 408.13 NORTHERN PIKE

Northern Pike less than 28 inches total length shall not be taken.

The daily bag limit shall be one (1) fish.

FIS 408.14 FISHWAYS CLOSED

Fishways on the Connecticut River shall be closed as follows:

- Vernon Dam in Vernon, VT, and Hinsdale, NH, shall be closed to all fishing 150 feet below the dam, and

F10.0 EXCEPTIONS

The following are exceptions to the general fishing regulations detailed in the preceding tables.

A All Species

- OPEN SEASON—Also, 3rd Saturday in January to the 2nd Sunday in March
- LEGAL METHOD—Ice fishing, using no more than 8 lines, with each having no more than 2 baited hooks, or no more than 3 artificial flies, or no more than one lure

B Brook, Brown, Rainbow and Lake Trout and Landlocked Salmon

- CREEL LIMITS—Total of brook trout, brown trout, rainbow trout, lake trout and landlocked salmon must not be more than 2

C Rainbow Trout

- LENGTH RULES—Minimum length 10"
- CREEL LIMITS—Total of rainbow trout no more than 2

D Landlocked Salmon

- LENGTH RULES—Length 17" minimum

E All Species

- OPEN SEASON—2nd Saturday in April to last Sunday in October, between 6:00 AM and one hour after sunset. Access to waters controlled by the Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation.
- LEGAL METHOD—Angling, by fly casting or trolling with a fly rod and reel, using artificial flies with a single hook without a barb or with the barb crimped down or filed off, only from boats rented from the Department of Forest, Parks & Recreation (shore and tributary fishing are prohibited).

F All Species

- OPEN SEASON—2nd Saturday in April to May 10, between 5:00 AM and 8:00 PM EST, or between 6:00 AM and 9:00 PM EDT
- LEGAL METHOD—Angling, with not more than one line, with an unweighted single pointed hook

G Brook, Brown, Rainbow and Lake Trout, Landlocked Salmon, and Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

- OPEN SEASON—Also, 3rd Saturday in January to the 2nd Sunday in March
- LEGAL METHOD—Ice fishing using no more than 8 lines with each having no more than 2 baited hooks or 3 artificial flies or no more than 2 lures per line

H Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass

- OPEN SEASON—All year
- LENGTH RULES—None

I Brook Trout, Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout

- LENGTH RULES—None
- CREEL LIMITS—Total of brook trout, brown trout and rainbow trout no more than 2

J Trout

- LEGAL METHOD—Angling
- LENGTH RULES—Trout between 10.0" and 16.0" inches must

be released, but those less than 10" and greater than 16" may be kept

- CREEL LIMITS—Total of no more than 2 trout, with no more than 1 trout greater than 16.0"

K Brook Trout, Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout

- LEGAL METHOD—Angling by artificial lures and flies only
- LENGTH RULES—18" minimum
- CREEL LIMITS—Total of no more than 1 of either brook trout, brown trout or rainbow trout

L Walleye

- OPEN SEASON—1st Saturday in May to March 15
- LENGTH RULES—15" minimum
- CREEL LIMITS—5

M Muskellunge

NO OPEN SEASON

N Brook Trout, Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout

- OPEN SEASON—May 15 to last Sunday in October

O All Species, October 1st to Last Sunday in October

- LEGAL METHOD—Angling by artificial lures and flies only
- CREEL LIMITS—Landlocked salmon must be released

P All Species

- LENGTH RULES—Length 10" minimum
- CREEL LIMITS—Total of all species no more than 2

Q All Species

- CLOSED TO FISHING—March 16 to the Friday before the 1st Saturday in May

R All Species

- CLOSED TO FISHING—March 16 to June 1

S All Species

- CLOSED TO FISHING—April 1 to June 1

T All Species

- CLOSED TO FISHING—April 7 to May 11

U All Species

- CLOSED TO FISHING—April 7 to June 1

V All Species

- CLOSED TO FISHING—October 1 to October 31

W Brook Trout, Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout

- OPEN SEASON—Open to fishing year round
- LEGAL METHOD—Other than during the regular open season (2nd Saturday in April—last Sunday in October) all trout must be caught only on artificial flies or lures and be immediately released
- CREEL LIMITS—Brook trout, brown trout and rainbow trout must be released immediately where taken

X Walleye

- OPEN SEASON—1st Saturday in May to March 15
- LENGTH RULES—Walleyes less than 15" and between 17"- 19" must be released; walleyes 15"-16.99" and greater than 19" may be kept but only one may be over 19"
- CREEL LIMITS—5 but only 1 may be over 19"

Y Largemouth Bass

- LENGTH RULES—Length 14" minimum

Z All Species

- OPEN SEASON – Angling, 2nd Saturday in April to last Sunday in October. Ice fishing, 3rd Saturday in January to 2nd Sunday in March.
- LEGAL METHOD – Angling with not more than 1 line with not more than 1 baited hook, or 3 artificial flies, or 1 lure. Ice fishing, with not more than 4 lines with not more than 2 baited hooks, or 3 flies, or 1 lure on each line.
- LENGTH RULES – Minimum length 20" for lake trout
- CREEL LIMITS – Not more than 1 lake trout

cc Walleye

- OPEN SEASON—June 1 to March 15
- LENGTH RULES—22" minimum
- CREEL LIMITS—2

dd All Species

- LEGAL METHOD—Angling; the use of either dead or living fish as bait is prohibited

ff Largemouth Bass

- LENGTH RULES—Largemouth bass between 10"- 12" must be released; largemouth bass smaller than 10" or greater than 12" may be kept
- CREEL LIMITS—10

gg Rainbow Trout/Steelhead

- LENGTH RULES—12" minimum
- CREEL LIMITS-3 Rainbow trout/steelhead

hh Trout

- CREEL LIMITS—All trout must be released immediately where caught

ii Trout

- LEGAL METHOD—Angling by artificial lures and flies
- LENGTH RULES—Minimum length 16"
- CREEL LIMITS—No more than 2 trout

jj Trout

- LEGAL METHOD—Angling
- LENGTH RULES—Trout 10.0" to 14.0" must be released; trout less than 10.0" and greater than 14.0" may be kept
- CREEL LIMITS—No more than 2 trout, with not more than one trout greater than 14.0"

F11.0 VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORY

To minimize exposure to potentially harmful contaminants and to protect your health, follow the guidelines below when eating fish caught in Vermont. Eating the total monthly limit within a single week is not recommended. One meal equals 8 ounces of raw fish fillet.

	Women of childbearing age, pregnant women, women planning to get pregnant, breastfeeding mothers, and children under 6 years of age:	All other individuals:
GENERAL ADVISORY:		
Walleye	0 meals	No more than 1 meal/month
Lake Trout, Smallmouth Bass, Chain Pickerel, American Eel	No more than 1 meal/month	No more than 3 meals/month
Brown Bullhead, Pumpkinseed	No advisory	No advisory
Largemouth Bass Northern Pike	No more than 2 meals/month	No more than 6 meals/month
Brook Trout Brown Trout Rainbow Trout Yellow Perch	No more than 3-4 meals/month	No advisory
All other fish	No more than 2-3 meals/month	No more than 9 meals/month
SPECIAL ADVISORIES:		
Lake Carmi—Walleye	No more than 4 meals/month	No advisory
Lake Champlain—Lake Trout larger than 25"	0 meals (includes children under age 15)	No more than 1 meal/month
Hoosic River—All fish	0 meals	0 meals
15 Mile Falls Chain (Comerford Reservoir and Moore Reservoir)—All fish	0 meals	No more than 2 meals/month
15 Mile Falls Chain (McIndoes Reservoir)—Yellow Perch	No more than 2 meals/month	No more than 6 meals/month
15 Mile Falls Chain (McIndoes Reservoir)—All other fish	No more than 1 meal/month	No more than 3 meals/month
SPECIAL ADVISORY:		
Deerfield Chain (Grout Pond, Somerset Reservoir, Harriman Reservoir, Sherman Reservoir, Searsburg Reservoir)		
Brown Bullhead Brook Trout	No advisory	No advisory
Rainbow Trout Brown Trout (smaller than 14") Rock Bass Rainbow Smelt Yellow Perch	No more than 1 meal/month	No more than 3 meals/month
Brown Trout (larger than 14") All other fish	0 meals	No more than 1 meal/month

For more information, call toll-free within Vermont 800-439-8550, or outside Vermont call 802-863-7220. Also, more information is posted on the Web at www.state.vt.us/health/record/fish.htm.

F12.0 HOW DOES MERCURY GET INTO FISH?

F12.1 MERCURY IN THE ENVIRONMENT

Mercury is an atmospherically deposited toxic metal, which has contaminated waterbodies throughout Vermont and other states. Mercury is emitted to the atmosphere during the combustion of fossil fuels and municipal and medical waste. It is subsequently deposited to watersheds. On the landscape, mercury undergoes a transformation known as methylation. Highly toxic methylmercury is easily assimilated by microscopic organisms at the bottom of the food web. Once in the food web, methylmercury bio-accumulates, reaching higher concentrations in the tissues of predatory fishes. Mercury is also directly assimilated by fish across the gill membrane.

F12.2 MERCURY AND HEALTH

Mercury has been found at unsafe levels in fresh water fish in many lakes and ponds in the northeast. Scientific studies have linked mercury with developmental problems, and with kidney and nervous system damage. Women who are pregnant should not eat fish with high levels of mercury. Mercury affects fetal development, preventing the brain and nervous system from developing normally. Affected children show lowered intelligence, impaired hearing, and poor coordination. Nationwide, more than thirty states currently have freshwater fish consumption advisories. Due to the level of mercury contamination in Vermont, the Department of Health has issued health advisories concerning the levels of mercury found in certain species of fish in reference to particular bodies of water. It has been determined that walleye, smallmouth bass, and chain pickerel show the highest concentrations of mercury. Please see section **F11.0** for the advisory in effect at the time this book was published, or go to the Health Department's website (www.state.vt.us/health) for the most current advisory.

F12.3 COMMON MISPERCEPTIONS ABOUT MERCURY AND FISH

Misperception: "Larger fish have less mercury."

Fact: This is Not True. Mercury accumulates as it moves up the food chain. Therefore, the large, predatory fish accumulate more mercury in their tissues. The older and larger the fish, the greater the potential for high mercury levels in their bodies.

Misperception: "Thoroughly cooking the fish will get rid of the mercury."

Fact: This is Not True. There is no method of cooking or cleaning a fish that will eliminate the amount of mercury in a meal. Mercury is tightly bound to the proteins in all fish tissue, including muscle. Mercury does not accumulate in any one area and cannot be cut from the fish.

F12.4 MORE INFORMATION ON MERCURY IN FISH

See the advisory in section **F11.0**, or go to the Health Department's Web page at www.state.vt.us/health. Or, call 802-241-3455. There is also a mercury website at www.mercvt.org.

F13.0 AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES

F13.1 TYPES OF AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL. Prolific aquatic plant found in Lank Champlain and many inland lakes in Vermont. Interferes with boating, fishing and swimming, and displaces native plants. Easily spread when plant fragments are caught and moved on boat trailers, propellers, anchors and other equipment, or in live wells.

ZEBRA MUSSEL. Tiny D-shaped mollusk, well established in Lake Champlain and Lake Bomoseen. Clog water intake pipes, damage boat engines, obscure historic shipwrecks, and alter native species populations. Adult zebra mussels can attach and be moved on boat hulls, engines and other equipment. Microscopic larva can get trapped and moved in water of boat engines, bilges, bait buckets, and live wells.

WATER CHESTNUT. Prolific annual plant found in southern Lake Champlain, Lake Bomoseen, and a few inland lakes. Interferes with boating, hunting and fishing, and displaces native plants. Spreads by seeds or parts of plants caught on boats and equipment.

ALEWIFE. Small baitfish recently established in Lake St. Catherine. May displace smelt and other native forage fish. Alewives may not be used as bait in Vermont.

MUTE SWAN. Very large white bird with orange bill, observed annually in Vermont since 1993. Highly aggressive during the nesting season and may drive away or kill native waterfowl. May also attack humans and negatively impact aquatic habitats.

SEA LAMPREY. Parasitic fish found in Lake Champlain and a number of its tributaries. Preys on salmon, trout, and other fish, causing substantial economic impact to the lake fisheries.

F13.2 STOP THE SPREAD OF AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES

When moving between waterbodies:

INSPECT your boat, trailer, and equipment (anchors, centerboards, rollers, axles) and remove any plants and animals.

DISCARD unused bait in the trash or leave with someone fishing in the same waterbody.

DRAIN water from the motor, live well, bilge, and transom wells before leaving any waterbody.

RINSE boat and equipment with tap water (preferably hot) or at a car wash.

DRY boat and equipment in the sun for at least 5 days.

LEARN how to identify aquatic nuisance species.

REPORT sightings of suspected aquatic nuisance species to the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department, 802-241-3700, or the Department of Environmental Conservation, 802-241-3777.

F13.3 NOTICE: TRANSPORTING EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL, ZEBRA MUSSELS, OR WATER CHESTNUT IS ILLEGAL

Pursuant to 10 VSA 1266, violators are subject to an immediate penalty of up to \$150.00 plus a surcharge.

F13.4 FISH IMPORTATION, INTRODUCTION AND TRANSPORTATION

The careless movement and release of fish for stocking or use as bait is a threat to the health of Vermont's waters and recreational fisheries. Precautions must be taken to prevent or minimize new introductions of species and disease to the waters of Vermont. If you are considering introducing fish into any water body, you should contact a district fisheries biologist in your area.

A person shall not import into Vermont to plant or introduce into the waters of the State any fish or spawn unless he or she has obtained a permit from the Fish & Wildlife Department.

Only certain species may be used as bait (see F2.7).

Anglers shall not discard unused bait, dead or alive, into Vermont waters. Emptying bait buckets can lead to the introduction of undesirable species.

F14.0 RELEASING FISH

Harvesting and eating a freshly caught fish, be it a trout, bass, perch, or walleye, is part of the angling experience. However, catch-and-release fishing has taken off in popularity, and there is nothing wrong with fishing for sport and putting your catch back to be caught another day. If you choose to do so, it is important to follow certain steps to ensure the fish you release truly will survive to fight another day. The following guidelines will help released fish live.

- **Land fish as rapidly as possible**, using tackle that is adequate but sporting. A fish played gently for too long may be too exhausted to recover and has an increased chance of dying after release.
- **Keep the fish in the water as much as possible and handle them with care.** Gently restrain the fish to minimize its movement while unhooking it.
- **Remove hooks gently and carefully from fish hooked in the lip, jaw or mouth. Never rip the hook out, use the "hook shake" method.**



Reach into the fish's mouth and grasp the hook shank with fingers or pliers. Lift the fish slightly out of the water, rotate hook shank so eyelet is down and shake gently. The weight of the fish will cause it to pop off the hook.

- **Use barbless hooks, or pinch barb flat with pliers, to quicken the unhooking process.** Barbless hooks, when used with bait, can increase the survival of released fish.
- **Do not attempt to remove the hook if the fish is hooked in the gills, throat or stomach.** Leave the hook in the fish by cutting the line as close to the knot as possible, Taking care not to injure the fish. The hook will often rust out of the fish or be passed within a few days. However, if legal, an injured fish is always a good candidate for harvesting!
- **When fishing with live bait, watch the line continuously and set the hook as soon as possible.** This reduces the chances of the fish swallowing the bait and the need for cutting the leader and leaving the hook in the fish.
- **Try not to expose the fish to the freezing air when ice fishing.** Keep the fish in the hole while unhooking it if possible. If not, unhook it as quickly as possible and return it to the water immediately to prevent the fish's eyes and gills from freezing.
- **Before releasing an exhausted fish, cradle it in a swimming position in calm water and move it gently back and forth to force fresh water through its gills.** When the fish is able to maintain an upright position on its own and is beginning to struggle, let it go. This process can sometimes take up to 10 minutes for large, exhausted fish.

Practice these methods and teach them to young anglers, our next generation of conservationists !

F15.0 LET'S GET THE LEAD OUT!

Loons and some other water birds can die from lead poisoning after swallowing lead fishing sinkers and jigs lost by anglers. You can help by switching to non-lead fishing tackle and by helping to spread the word for others to do the same.

Loons eat mainly fish, but their diet also includes insects, crayfish, and some vegetation. Loons also swallow small stones and grit that aid in digesting food in their gizzard. Sometimes lead from anglers' equipment is swallowed. They may also eat fish that have in them a hook and sinker broken from an angler's line.

A loon with lead poisoning may have physical and behavioral changes, including loss of balance, gasping, tremors, and impaired ability to fly. A weakened bird is more vulnerable to predators and it may have trouble feeding, mating, nesting, or caring for its young. After ingesting lead some loons lose weight and die within two to three weeks, but "the majority of birds presented with lead ingestion were otherwise healthy adults in good body condition" (Pokras 1992).

Research in the northeastern United States and Canada has documented that poisoning from lead sinkers and jigs can account for 10 to 50 percent of dead adult loons found. It is the leading cause of observed loon deaths here in the Northeast. Lead sinkers up to 1 inch in diameter, lead-headed jigs and special hooks with lead weights just below the eye of the hook are the principle causes of these deaths.

What can you do to help?

- Use non-lead fishing weights
- Ask your local sporting goods store to stock non-lead fishing tackle
- Spread the word. Tell other anglers about the problem and encourage them to switch to non-lead alternatives
- Remove lead sinkers and jigs from your tacklebox

Some other ways to help loons:

- Remove spent fishing line and other materials from Vermont waters and shorelines to reduce entanglement, another cause of loon deaths
- Maintain a respectful distance from wild animals. Use binoculars to get a great view
- Observe and report loon sightings and nest activities, but do not approach a nest
- Participate in the annual Vermont Loon Watch on the third Saturday in July. For information call 802-241-3700.
- Support continuing loon and other nongame wildlife management efforts by donating to the Vermont Nongame Wildlife Fund on your Vermont income tax form or on hunting and fishing license applications
- Buy Vermont Conservation License Plates for your vehicle

Preventing Human Lead Exposure from Fishing Sinkers

Some fishing sinkers contain lead. Lead can be dangerous to your body if breathed in or eaten. Prolonged and high levels of exposure to lead can cause brain and nerve damage, slowed growth in children, and reproductive problems and high blood pressure in adults.

In order to prevent exposure to lead, please handle lead sinkers with care and use the following guidelines:

- Wash hands with soap after holding or using lead sinkers
- Never put lead sinkers in your mouth. This includes biting down on or chewing lead sinkers.
- Never handle or eat food immediately after handling lead sinkers unless hands have been washed with soap first
- Take proper precautions when melting lead and pouring sinkers at home
- Switch to sinkers that do not contain lead or zinc. Alternatives to lead sinkers are made of steel, bismuth, tungsten, resin and glass.

If you suspect lead poisoning in your child or yourself, or you would like further information, call:

**Vermont Department of Health
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
800-439-8550 or 802-865-7786**

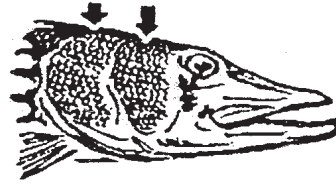
This office provides screening, public information and technical assistance:

The National Lead Clearing House, 800-424-LEAD

F16.0 FISH IDENTIFICATION

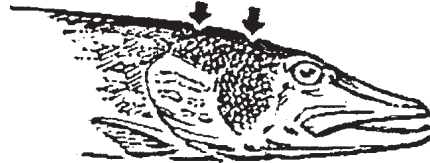
PICKEREL FAMILY

Look for the color pattern but particularly notice the scalation of the cheek and gill cover:



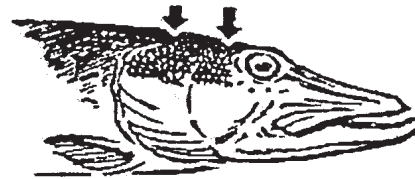
Pickerel

Have both cheek and gill fully scaled.



Northern Pike

Have upper half of gill cover scaled and fully scaled cheek.

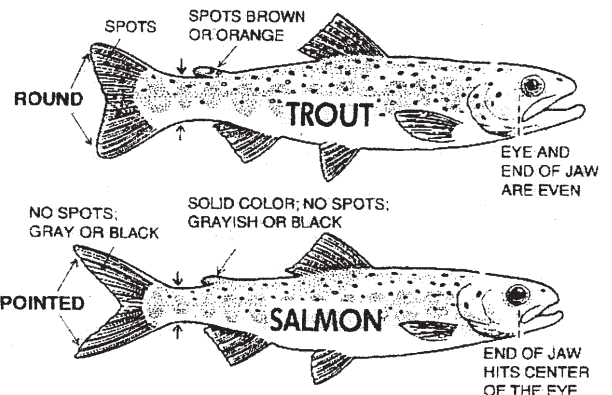


Muskies

Have only the upper half of gill and cheek scaled.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO FISH IS \$500

Atlantic salmon live in the Connecticut River and its tributaries. Your cooperation is essential for their survival. Know the difference between trout and salmon. All salmon must be returned to the water. Young salmon (parr) resemble brown trout. Familiarize yourself with the differences. Most parr rarely exceed 6 inches in length. Violation of the laws governing Atlantic salmon may result in a \$500 fine.



Vermont Hunters and Anglers Can Be Proud Of Their Role as Conservationists

Most of the historic fish and wildlife conservation efforts in Vermont were started and supported by hunters and anglers. These were citizens who cared deeply about ensuring that future generations of Vermonters would be able to catch a meal of brook trout, bring home a deer for the table and enjoy watching the wildlife that enrich our lives on a daily basis.

Laws were created in attempts to protect Vermont deer as early as the 1700s. Citizen “fish commissioners” were attempting to establish fish populations in the 1800s. Deer hunting season was closed from 1865 until 1896 to help rebuild the population that had been depleted due to habitat loss and uncontrolled hunting. Public Act 118 of 1904 established a fish and game Commissioner and Vermont game wardens with funds to support their work.

All of these things happened because hunters and anglers were pushing for them to occur. Vermont’s first sportsmen’s clubs were formed in the late 1800s, and then, as now, members initiated and supported fish and wildlife conservation efforts.

Vermont’s first hunting licenses were sold in 1906 to nonresidents. Resident licenses to hunt and fish went on sale in 1908 at a fee of 50 cents. By 1925, license revenue totaled more than \$70,000. By 1942, Vermont had one licensed hunter for every 7.4 residents. A federal excise tax on hunting equipment went into effect in 1938, the revenue being apportioned to the states for wildlife conservation. A similar federal excise tax on fishing equipment went into effect in 1950 for fish conservation programs.

Hunters and anglers established fish and wildlife conservation programs and supported them financially and politically to ensure those programs were successful. And, they still do today with all of society benefiting.

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Programs

Vermont’s hunters and anglers have helped restore many species of fish and wildlife, both game and nongame, and they have established many major conservation projects through their purchase of licenses and through taxes on hunting and fishing equipment.

Consider the following list of successful programs and share the information with folks who may not realize how Vermont’s hunters and anglers play a vital role in conservation:

- The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department used this funding to establish a breeding population of Canada geese in the Champlain Valley.
- The department live-trapped 31 wild turkeys in New York in 1969 and 1970, releasing them in Pawlet and Hubbardton, to establish Vermont’s population of 40,000 wild turkeys that we have today.
- The fisher, another former native Vermonter, was returned to Vermont’s woodlands as a valuable furbearer in the 1960s.
- Wood ducks were re-established by erecting nesting boxes to provide safe nesting sites.
- Through careful management and protection, white-tailed deer,

black bears, moose, bobcats and beaver were brought back from extremely low numbers in the late 1800s to the healthy populations we have today.

- Trout, salmon, bass, walleyes and other fishes are managed to provide good fishing. Recreation and economic benefits result for all Vermonters.
- Nongame wildlife restoration efforts also have benefited from hunters and anglers funding Vermont wildlife work. Examples include the peregrine falcon, osprey and common loon.
- More than 150 developed free public fishing access areas provide boat-launching sites on Vermont lakes and rivers.
- 85 Wildlife Management Areas with more than 130,000 acres of habitat benefit wildlife and all Vermonters.

Hunters and Anglers Pay Their Way

Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department revenues were \$13,446,340 in Fiscal Year 2004.

Of this, \$6,529,923 (49%) was derived from licenses and permits, and \$4,307,798 (32%) was federal aid from excise taxes on the manufacture of hunting and fishing equipment and the sale of boating fuels. These percentages vary from year-to-year.

Generally, one can say that about 50% of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department’s revenue comes from licenses and another 25% from taxes on hunting and fishing equipment.

A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service survey conducted in 2001 revealed that Vermont’s economy gets a major economic boost from sportfishing. In 2001, resident and nonresident anglers 16 years of age and older fished 2.3 million days in Vermont—an average of 14 days per angler. These anglers spent \$111 million on fishing in Vermont. Trip-related expenses, including food and lodging, transportation and other items totaled \$59 million. Equipment expenditures totaled \$27 million.

The same survey showed that hunters contribute greatly to Vermont’s economy after leaf peeping ends and before ski season starts. Resident and nonresident hunters 16 and older hunted 1.5 million days in Vermont—an average of 15 days per hunter. They spent \$71 million while hunting in Vermont in 2001. Trip-related expenses totaled \$16 million. Equipment expenses totaled \$24 million.

That’s \$182 million spent in Vermont in one year by hunters and anglers, a large chunk of change in its own right. But, also consider the fortunate timing of hunting coming during otherwise slow tourist weeks in the Fall, and that these expenditures are occurring throughout all of Vermont’s small communities, including the most rural reaches of the state.

So, the next time you get a chance, let other folks know how Vermont hunters and anglers contribute to fish and wildlife conservation and our economy. You can be proud of your Vermont hunting and fishing traditions.

SUNRISE AND SUNSET TABLES

(Eastern Standard Time-Montpelier, VT)

Add 1 hour for Daylight Savings Time if and when in use

DAY	JAN.		FEB.		MAR.		APR.	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
1	7 26	4 22	7 09	5 00	6 28	5 38	5 32	6 17
2	7 26	4 23	7 08	5 01	6 27	5 39	5 31	6 18
3	7 26	4 24	7 07	5 02	6 25	5 41	5 29	6 20
4	7 26	4 25	7 05	5 04	6 23	5 42	5 27	6 21
5	7 26	4 26	7 04	5 05	6 21	5 43	5 25	6 22
6	7 26	4 27	7 03	5 07	6 20	5 45	5 23	6 23
7	7 26	4 28	7 02	5 08	6 18	5 46	5 21	6 25
8	7 26	4 29	7 00	5 09	6 16	5 47	5 20	6 26
9	7 25	4 30	6 59	5 11	6 14	5 49	5 18	6 27
10	7 25	4 31	6 58	5 12	6 13	5 50	5 16	6 28
11	7 25	4 32	6 56	5 14	6 11	5 51	5 14	6 29
12	7 24	4 33	6 55	5 15	6 09	5 52	5 13	6 31
13	7 24	4 35	6 54	5 16	6 07	5 54	5 11	6 32
14	7 24	4 36	6 52	5 18	6 05	5 55	5 09	6 33
15	7 23	4 37	6 51	5 19	6 03	5 56	5 07	6 34
16	7 23	4 38	6 49	5 21	6 02	5 57	5 06	6 36
17	7 22	4 40	6 48	5 22	6 00	5 59	5 04	6 37
18	7 21	4 41	6 46	5 23	5 58	6 00	5 02	6 38
19	7 21	4 42	6 45	5 25	5 56	6 01	5 01	6 39
20	7 20	4 43	6 43	5 26	5 54	6 02	4 59	6 40
21	7 19	4 45	6 41	5 27	5 53	6 04	4 57	6 42
22	7 18	4 46	6 40	5 29	5 51	6 05	4 56	6 43
23	7 18	4 47	6 38	5 30	5 49	6 06	4 54	6 44
24	7 17	4 49	6 37	5 31	5 47	6 07	4 53	6 45
25	7 16	4 50	6 35	5 33	5 45	6 09	4 51	6 47
26	7 15	4 51	6 33	5 34	5 43	6 10	4 49	6 48
27	7 14	4 53	6 32	5 35	5 41	6 11	4 48	6 49
28	7 13	4 54	6 30	5 37	5 40	6 12	4 46	6 50
29	7 12	4 56			5 38	6 13	4 45	6 51
30	7 11	4 57			5 36	6 15	4 43	6 53
31	7 10	4 58			5 34	6 16		

(Eastern Standard Time-Montpelier, VT)

Add 1 hour for Daylight Savings Time if and when in use

DAY	MAY		JUNE		JULY		AUG.	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
1	4 42	6 54	4 10	7 27	4 10	7 38	4 37	7 15
2	4 41	6 55	4 09	7 28	4 11	7 38	4 38	7 14
3	4 39	6 56	4 09	7 29	4 11	7 38	4 39	7 13
4	4 38	6 57	4 08	7 29	4 12	7 37	4 41	7 12
5	4 36	6 59	4 08	7 30	4 12	7 37	4 42	7 10
6	4 35	7 00	4 07	7 31	4 13	7 37	4 43	7 09
7	4 34	7 01	4 07	7 31	4 14	7 36	4 44	7 08
8	4 32	7 02	4 07	7 32	4 14	7 36	4 45	7 06
9	4 31	7 03	4 07	7 33	4 15	7 35	4 46	7 05
10	4 30	7 04	4 06	7 33	4 16	7 35	4 47	7 03
11	4 29	7 06	4 06	7 34	4 17	7 34	4 48	7 02
12	4 27	7 07	4 06	7 34	4 18	7 34	4 50	7 00
13	4 26	7 08	4 06	7 35	4 18	7 33	4 51	6 59
14	4 25	7 09	4 06	7 35	4 19	7 33	4 52	6 57
15	4 24	7 10	4 06	7 36	4 20	7 32	4 53	6 56
16	4 23	7 11	4 06	7 36	4 21	7 31	4 54	6 54
17	4 22	7 12	4 06	7 37	4 22	7 30	4 55	6 53
18	4 21	7 13	4 06	7 37	4 23	7 30	4 57	6 51
19	4 20	7 14	4 06	7 37	4 24	7 29	4 58	6 49
20	4 19	7 16	4 06	7 38	4 25	7 28	4 59	6 48
21	4 18	7 17	4 06	7 38	4 26	7 27	5 00	6 46
22	4 17	7 18	4 07	7 38	4 27	7 26	5 01	6 45
23	4 16	7 19	4 07	7 38	4 28	7 25	5 02	6 43
24	4 15	7 20	4 07	7 38	4 29	7 24	5 03	6 41
25	4 14	7 21	4 07	7 38	4 30	7 23	5 05	6 40
26	4 14	7 22	4 08	7 38	4 31	7 22	5 06	6 38
27	4 13	7 23	4 08	7 38	4 32	7 21	5 07	6 36
28	4 12	7 23	4 09	7 38	4 33	7 20	5 08	6 34
29	4 12	7 24	4 09	7 38	4 34	7 19	5 09	6 33
30	4 11	7 25	4 10	7 38	4 35	7 18	5 10	6 31
31	4 10	7 26			4 36	7 17	5 12	6 29

(Eastern Standard Time-Montpelier, VT)

Add 1 hour for Daylight Savings Time if and when in use

DAY	SEP.		OCT.		NOV.		DEC.	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
1	5 13	6 27	5 48	5 32	6 27	4 41	7 06	4 13
2	5 14	6 25	5 49	5 30	6 28	4 39	7 07	4 13
3	5 15	6 24	5 50	5 28	6 30	4 38	7 08	4 12
4	5 16	6 22	5 51	5 26	6 31	4 37	7 09	4 12
5	5 17	6 20	5 52	5 25	6 32	4 35	7 10	4 12
6	5 19	6 18	5 54	5 23	6 34	4 34	7 11	4 12
7	5 20	6 16	5 55	5 21	6 35	4 33	7 12	4 11
8	5 21	6 15	5 56	5 19	6 36	4 32	7 13	4 11
9	5 22	6 13	5 57	5 17	6 38	4 30	7 14	4 11
10	5 23	6 11	5 59	5 16	6 39	4 29	7 15	4 11
11	5 24	6 09	6 00	5 14	6 40	4 28	7 16	4 11
12	5 25	6 07	6 01	5 12	6 42	4 27	7 17	4 11
13	5 27	6 05	6 02	5 10	6 43	4 26	7 17	4 12
14	5 28	6 03	6 04	5 09	6 44	4 25	7 18	4 12
15	5 29	6 02	6 05	5 07	6 46	4 24	7 19	4 12
16	5 30	6 00	6 06	5 05	6 47	4 23	7 20	4 12
17	5 31	5 58	6 07	5 04	6 48	4 22	7 20	4 13
18	5 32	5 56	6 09	5 02	6 50	4 21	7 21	4 13
19	5 34	5 54	6 10	5 00	6 51	4 20	7 22	4 13
20	5 35	5 52	6 11	4 59	6 52	4 19	7 22	4 14
21	5 36	5 50	6 12	4 57	6 54	4 19	7 23	4 14
22	5 37	5 49	6 14	4 55	6 55	4 18	7 23	4 15
23	5 38	5 47	6 15	4 54	6 56	4 17	7 24	4 15
24	5 39	5 45	6 16	4 52	6 57	4 17	7 24	4 16
25	5 41	5 43	6 18	4 51	6 59	4 16	7 25	4 16
26	5 42	5 41	6 19	4 49	7 00	4 15	7 25	4 17
27	5 43	5 39	6 20	4 48	7 01	4 15	7 25	4 18
28	5 44	5 37	6 22	4 46	7 02	4 14	7 26	4 18
29	5 45	5 36	6 23	4 45	7 03	4 14	7 26	4 19
30	5 46	5 34	6 24	4 43	7 04	4 13	7 26	4 20
31			6 26	4 42			7 26	4 21

**FAST.
EASY.
CONVENIENT.**

Get your license online.
www.vtfishandwildlife.com
 or www.vtfwdsales.com

- Access Areas, Fishing** SEE Fishing Information
- Addison (Dead Creek) Waterfowl Refuge** G2.6
- Alder Brook (Stony Brook)** F3.0
- Amherst Lake** F4.0
- Anadromous Atlantic Salmon** SEE Fishing Information
- Angling** SEE Fishing Information
- Ansel Pond** F4.0
- Aquatic Habitat Unit** G2.3
- Aquatic Nuisance Species** F2.15, F13.0
- Archery Deer Hunting** H3.8
- Archery License Requirements** G3.9
- ATVs** H1.7
- Autoloading Rifles** H1.2
- Back Pond** F4.0
- Baitfish Use & Restrictions** F2.7
- Bald Hill Fish Culture Station** G2.6
- Bald Hill Pond** F4.0
- Baker Pond (Barton)** F4.0
- Baker Pond (Brookfield)** F4.0
- Bancroft Pond** F4.0
- Barre District Natural Resources Office** G2.6
- Barton River** F3.0
- Battenkill River** F3.0
- Bean Pond** F4.0
- Bear Hunting** H4.0
 - Big Game** H2.0
 - Dogs** H4.3
 - General** H4.1
 - Sale of Parts** H4.4
 - Transportation** H4.2
- Beaver** SEE Trapping Information
- Beaver Pond (Holland)** F4.0
- Beck Pond** F4.0
- Beebe Pond** F4.0
- Bennington Fish Culture Station** G2.6
- Big Averill Lake** F4.0
- Big Fish Pond** F4.0
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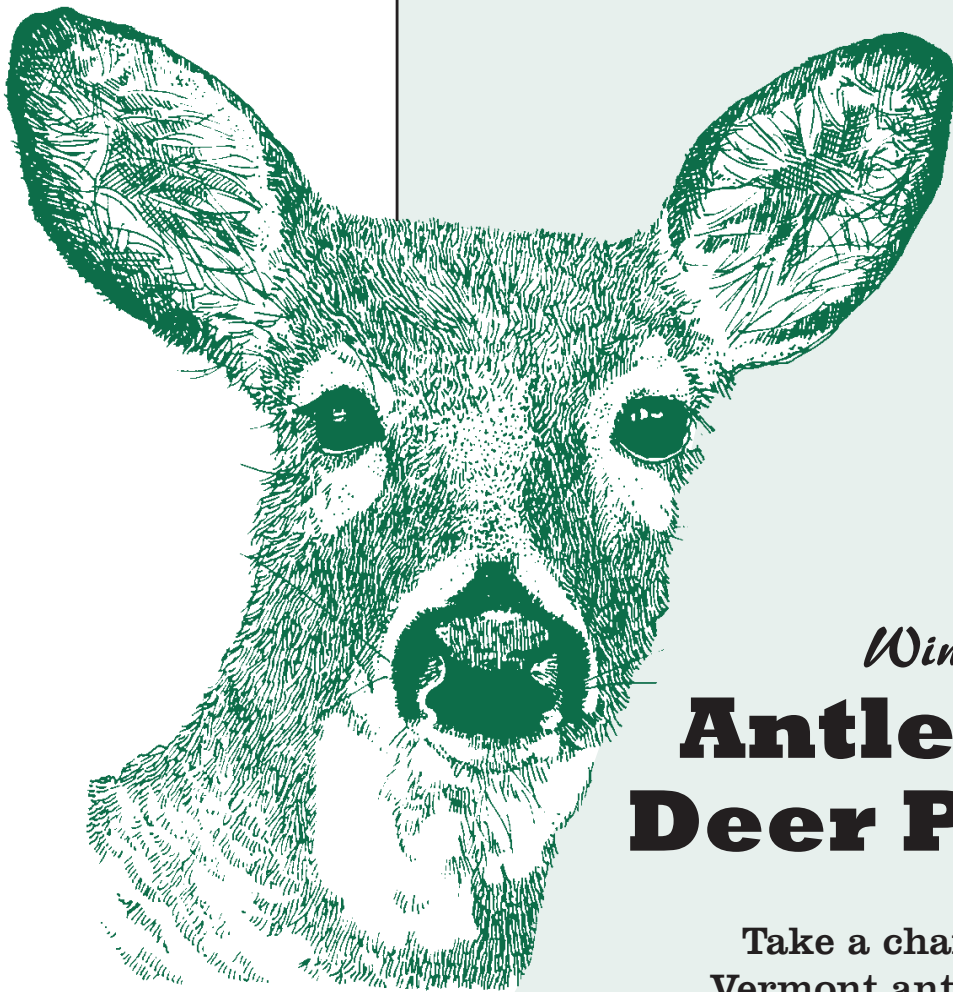
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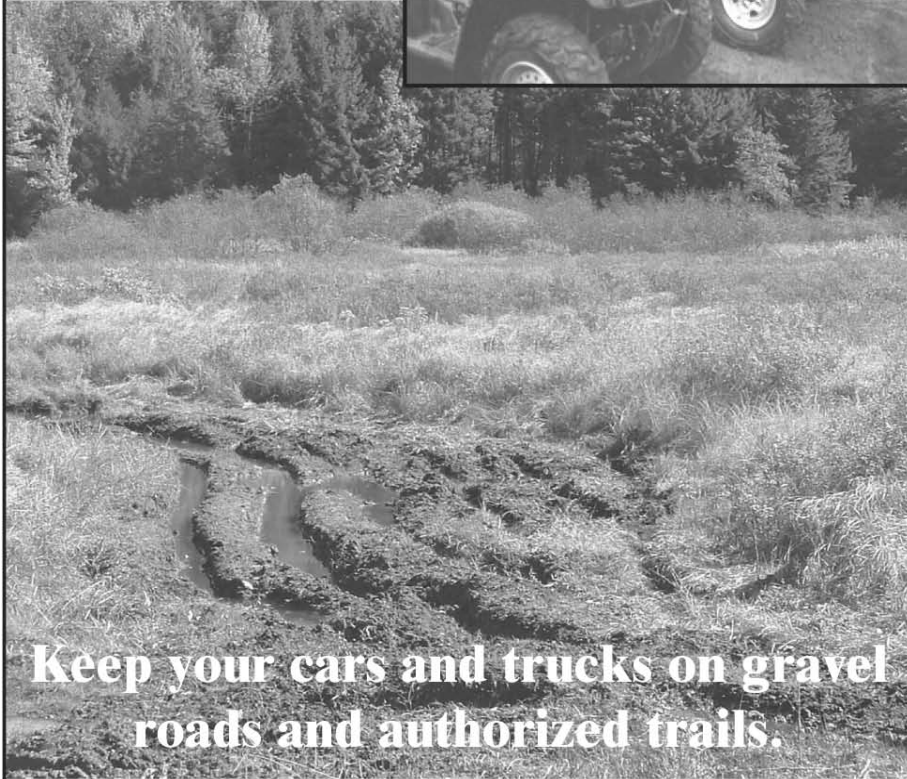
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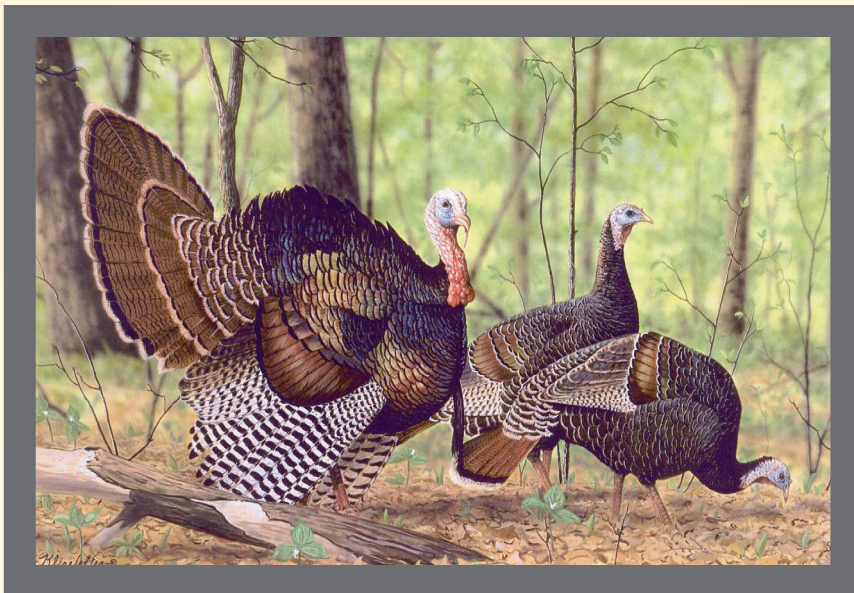
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